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SECTION3 REVIEW

Preparing for war - and tracking down Santa Claus



SECTION 4 SPORT & LEISURE

Inside Anfield and how to keep up your castle



SATURDAY DECEMBER 17 1988

That's politics' says controversial Health Minister | Crackdown on

Currie resigns as 10 more take out writs

Government injects cash to stem eggs crisis

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Currie style.

Parliament.

Commentary

chicken stocks.

Mrs Currie's position ap-

pears to have become un-

tenable on Thursday night

against her for damages.

debate on abortion.

retary of State for Health, at

the Department at 8.45am.

Having decided to resign she

then had an hour-long meet-ing with Mr David Wadding-

ton, the Chief, Whip, at Number 12 Downing Street.

Leading article.

Mrs Edwina Currie yes- istry of Defence since May terday resigned as junior Health Minister two eeks after a single un-guarded remark plunged the British egg industry

into its worst crisis. Her short, flamboyant and intensely controvercame to an end as Mr gaffe during a television inter-John MacGregor, Minister of Agriculture, au-nounced a multi-million infected with salmonella. ister of Agriculture, anpound scheme to buy-ia

millions of eggs.

The resignation came on the first day of an emergency £500.000 Government advertising scheme to counter the fears she had aroused, and on a day when 10 more writs were issued against her by trate egg producers seeking damages. The egg industry prected the news with delight.

Last night Mrs Currie's replacement was named as Mr Roger Freeman, who has been Under Secretary at the Min-

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Inflation level

Britain's inflation rate steadied at 6.4 per cent last month. after rising strongly since the summer. But the good news was only temporary, and inflation seems certain to top 7 per cent in January, and could reach 8 per cent in the spring.

Mr Canzini said she had opened the conversation by asking about unrelated con-An accountant by training and a former banker, Mr Freeman has been MP for stituency matters. "Once she had told me what had occured Kettering since June 1983, she added 'That's politics. having entered the Commons at the same time as Mrs Currie

The frequently outspoken Mrs Currie, a minister for just emotion or bitterness in her two years, made her ultimate voice. She ohviously fully accepted that faced with an view two weeks ago today when she said that "most" impossible situation she felt her only honourable course of action would be resignation."

Government sources stress-Over the past fortnight the ed that Mrs Currie had asked for the meeting and that there was no question of the Prime Minister having sacked her.

In her formal letter to Mrs

Thatcher, Mrs Currie expressed no regret for the crisis she appears to have provoked. She said merely that she had considered "the matter" very carefully and had decided to apologise or retract and as egg sales slumped by up to 60 per cent. Tory MPs were deluged offer her resignation. "I think that in all the circumstances this is the best course." with complaints from furious egg producers who face finan-

Mrs Thatcher, in reply, said she had received Mrs Currie's cial ruin and the prospect of letter "with great personal sadness". She continued: "It having to slaughter their has. I know, been a very difficult time and 1 fully understand your reasons for

when Thames Valley Eggs. Mrs Currie's "great energy and enthusiasm" would be one of the country's biggest producers, started legal action missed, said Mrs Thatcher, and she praised her "tremen-The first public sign of her dous contribution, among impending resignation came other things, in making all of early vesterday morning when us realise that better health is Mr David Mellor, Minister of not just the responsibility of State for Health, appeared in doctors and nurses but that so her place for a Commons much depends on the way we look after ourselves and our She had in fact already seen Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Sec-

Mr Clarke likewise issued a statement regretting Mrs Currie's departure and praising her contribution to the depart ment's work. "She is entitled to feel proud of her achievements in the fields of women's health and health promotion

Then she walked along the in particular. private corridor to Number In the early days of the row 10. She spent 30 minutes Mr Clarke had staunchly dewitch Mrs Thatcher, from fended Mrs Currie and suggested in the Commons that her detractors envied her abil-

Earlier, at 10.30am, she had telephoned Mr David Canity to generate publicity. zini. the agent in her South Mrs Currie's resignation Derbyshire constituency, and Continued on page 16, col 7 broken the news.

BR blames signal work

By Tim Jones and Rodney Cowton British Rail formally acknowl- Southampton at St George's Hospital, Tooting, south-west

> At the inquiry, railway technicians gave evidence of the pressures under which they

had to work when carrying out

According to one railway

union source, telecommunica-

tions personnel at Clapham

had been working as much as

Defective signal, page 3

signalling installations.

60 hours a week.

edged last night that defective installation of signalling equipment was believed to be responsible for the rail crash at Clapham on Monday. Its conclusion came after three days of hearings hy an

internal inquiry into the The crash claimed its 34th vicum earlier in the day with the death of Mr Stephen Dyer,

By David Brewerton and Graham Rock

A battle for domination among Britain's

bookmakers broke out last night when

the William Hill betting shop chain was

taken over by Mecca Bookmakers in a £33t million cash deal.

Mecca, part of the Grand Metropolitan

conglomerate, brings together the second

and fourth largest groups respectively to create a chain with 1701 branches in the

UK, only about 50 branches behind the

The deal is being examined by the

Office of Fair Trading, which may ask the Monopolies and Mergers Com-

In particular, the Office of Fair

Trading will be probing the situation in

Greater London where the new chain

will own about 800 of the 2.000 betting

offices. The new group will boass annual

mission to mount a full investigation.

market leader, Ladbroke.

The combination of William Hill and

Merger opens battle of bookmakers turnover of some £1.25 billion and profits of £40 million. Mecca expects profits to increase as the benefits of

putting the two groups together emerge.

Hill. Coral and Mecca, now the big three.

The big four bookmakers, Ladbroke,

own more than 40 per cent of the country's 10,300 beiling shops, with Details.

Profiles.....

the remaining 60 per cent in the hands of independent owners and small chains. But the more powerful chains have a disproportionate share of the market. taking over half the offcourse bets which

The ócal will consolidate William Hill as the leading bookmaker in credit betting by telephone, for which it has

developed highly sophisticated elec-Until yesterday's deal William Hill

was owned by Sears, the stores chain which takes in Selfridges, the Dolcis and Saxone Shoe chain and Freemans, inc mail order house. A working title of "Hills" has been chosen for the new company, which will be run by Boh Green, the head of Mecca Bookmakers. and who was instrumental in the introduction of satellite racing into betting shops.

"It is a momentous occasion for both companies and the industry generally. Mr Green said,"and I think racing will benefit from the deal. We will be a very efficient organization, generating in-creased turnover in retail betting.

"The two companies have a perfect strategic fit. We bring a very strong management team and leadership of the industry in technology and contmunications. Hills have a very clear name ours had become confused, with Miss World and Mecca Leisure, "William Continued on page 16, col 7

work shirkers to save £140m

By Jill Sherman and Tim Jones

the workshy in a package of measures designed to save £140 million and remove 50,000 people from the unemployment register. Under the new Social Sec-

urity Bill, people out of work risk losing unemployment benefit unless they can prove they are actively looking for work. The unemployed will also be unable to refuse a job purely on the grounds of the rates of pay offered, after a maximum of 13 weeks.

The proposals came under immediate attack from the Labour Party and the TUC who said the "rag bag of a Bill" provided a licence to harrass the unemployed and an open invitation for employers to pay below the rate for the job. The TUC criticized "the

hypocricy of the Government hich is hell bent on dole fraud while at the same time putting thousands of people out of work in shipyards and sacking people at GCHQ". Under the new Bill staff in

unemployment benefit offices will be given increased powers to demand proof from claimants that they have tried to find work, such as job application letters or records of telephone calls. This replaces the present requirement that claimants only have to be

Launching the Bill, Mr John loore, Secretary of State for Social Security, said that it would" help open up the

The Government yesterday number of jobs on offer." announced a crackdown on Mr Moore said that would expect all those claiming unemployment benefit to actively seek work on a weekly basis, although in practice most claimants will be checked every two weeks when they visit their local benefit office.

Mr Nicholas Scott, Minister for Social Security, said that

some unemployed people had been allowed to drift into an attitude where they felt they did not need to be looking for work. "We are getting a very much better employment situation. It is right for individuais to be in employment rather than on state benefit, he said.

Mr Moore said the measures to cut dole queues would alone save £100 million but the Government expects to save a further £40 million from another clause which will make companies re-imburse the state for benefit paid for industrial accidents and injuries. About 50,000 would be expected to come off unemployment registers, he

The CBI said last night that the measure to force employers to repay state benefits for people suffering from accident, injury and disease would increase liability premiums by 16 per cent.

Mr Robin Cook, the Shadow Social Services Secretary, said the Government had lost a golden opportunity labour market and encourage to do something for those in people to take up the growing need, such as the disabled.

Knife gang in wave of motorway stabbings

A gang of burglars who left a trail of blood through suburban Surrey gratuitously stabbing and murdering victims were last night being hunted by police across southern

One man was left to die in a field bound and stripped after arguing with the gang when it commandcered his car.

A second victim was fighting for his life in hospital after

being knifed in his home as he the gang. According to Scot- ity these men will strike again. The crimes committed on too confronted the gang and land Yard the suspects are all. They showed violence in the Thursday night span a 20-mile tried to defend his elderly parents.

- The departing Mrs Currie: she was 'definitely not' given the sack

Detectives believe the gang, totalling three or four, has carried out up 10 a dozen attacks, including rape, in the past two months striking from the M25 into suburban London and the Surrey commutter belt.

After one burglary earlier this month police gave chase in south London in the early hours of the morning but lost said: "There is every possibil-

in their 20s and about medium build. One is white and one is black but there is no clear description of a third member. Police think there could also be a fourth member of the gang.

As Surrey and Scotland Yard launched a jount investigation last night Det Chief Supt Vincent McFadden, head of Surrey CID and the joint operation,

extreme. It was gratuitous violence. I do not see bow anyone could justify these men did."

He warned the public not to approach the men as they were 'extremely dangerous"

Speaking at the Reigate headquarters of the investigation, he said there was no suggestion the gang would return but he advised house-

holds everywhere to keep

windows and doors locked.

radius straddling the M25.

The attacks began when a building company manager and a teenage employee were ambushed as they left the White Bear public house in Fickleshole near New Addington, Surrey.

Their Austin Princess car was flagged down at about 11.30pm and they were forced to drive up the road to a green Spitfire which had been left Continued on page 16, col 1

Bush picks Tower to run US defence

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Tower, a personal friend as Defence Secretary, ending weeks of speculation while the Federal Bureau of Investigation conducted extensive background checks into the former Texas senator.

There has been widespread concern on Capitol Hill that Tower would resist substantial economies in the Pentagon because of his close relationship with defence contractors but he said yesterday

that he would go along with curbs in defence spending. "We have a great challenge ahead," he said. "We must provide at least as much defence for less money. We must rationalise our force structure. We must revise and reform our management and procurement procedures."

President-elect George Bush branch to the Democrat-con-yesterday nominated Mr John trolled Congress, which is clearly in a mood for substantial reductions. American public opinion is on their side. primarily because of the new, warmer relationship with the Soviet Union.

"We must have bi-anoual budgeting," Mr Tower in-sisted. "This will require close cooperation with Congress."

Mr 8ush is also set to nominate Representative Jack Kemp as Secretary for Housing and Urban Development, a key post touching on the national crisis of bomelessness. Mr Kemp, a right-winger who fought Mr Bush for the presidential nomination, claims to be heir of the Reagan legacy. He retires from Congress next month after representing a working class district in the Buffalo area of He extended an olive New York for 18 years.

« When you seek to make a COGNAC that is TRUIN PRECIOUS » soys BERNARD HINE ~ « one word will often come in useful NON!

Rather like the great French General himself, Jacques and Bernard Hine A know how to say 'Non."

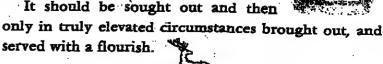
"Non" to anything but the finest grapes in Cognac. "Non" to the clear, young cognacs, unless they are absolutely as they want them. "Non" indeed, to mature cognacs however

exquisite, that do not blend like notes, to create the perfect symphony.

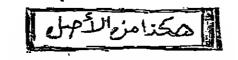
These proud principles, handed down by 6 generations of Hines, produce only the finest cognacs. But

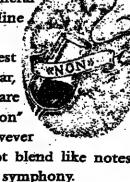
of course such standards also make it impossible to produce Hine in large

quantities. Hine is rarified and Hine is rare. Known by many, tasted by few.











NEWS ROUNDUP

Dublin request on prosecution

The Irish government has asked the Royal Ulster Constabulary to prosecute in the Northern Ireland courts a self-confessed IRA terrorist for a murder committed in the Republic. RUC sources said last night that the request would almost certainly be granted. It comes after the confession of Sean O'Callaghan to the murder of a police informer in Cork three years ago. Earlier this month, O'Callaghan, a former Sinn Fein councillor in Tralee, Co Kerry, walked into Tunbridge Wells police station in Kent and announced that he wanted to confess to various IRA

 The IRA yesterday warned the British Army that it had a week to remove the families of soldiers living in Northern Ireland or suffer the consequence.

Meanwhile, an off-duty part-time Ulster Defence Regiment soldier was shot dead while he was sitting in his coal lorry in Downpatrick, Co Down.

Tax gathering grant
Mr John Gummer, Minister for Housing and Planning, said
yesterday that local authorities had no excuse for delaying schemes to collect the poll tax, when he announced the allocation of £135 million to huy computers and office equipment. The money has been shared according to local population and what Mr Gummer called the relative mobility of inhabitants - people are thought to be more expensive to track in inner cities

Why Meteor crashed

The last airworthy Meteor jet crashed at Coventry air show last May because its pilot used the air brakes at too low a speed, according to a Ministry of Defence report. Flight Lieutenant Peter Stacey, aged 38, an instructor at RAF Scampton Central Flying School, died in the crash. The Meteor was notorious for diving if its speed dropped below 170 knots with air brakes extended and pilots were warned to retract them before the undercarriage was lowered.

Guinness case delay

Seven businessmen accused of making more than £24 million during the Guinness takeover had their trial postponed for two months yesterday in order to make applications to drop the charges against them. Lawyers for the seven, including Ernest Saunders, the £175,000-a-year former chief executive of Guinness, made the application to the Central Criminal Court sitting at Southwark, south London. Mr Saunders, Gerald Ronson, Anthony Parnes, Sir Jack Lyons, Roger Seelig, Lord Patrick Spens and David Mayhew, face SS charges including theft, falsification and conspiracy.

'Flu strikes South-east

The current influenza outbreak is more severe in South-east England than in the North or Scotland. However, people living in London are less likely to catch the virus than those in Wales or the South-west, a survey of doctors disclosed yesterday. Beecham Health Care has questioned more than 150 doctors in Britain about the levels of inflnenza in their area each week since 1971.

Chess climax tonight

The last leg of the final round of the First World Active Chess Championship takes place this evening in Mazatlan, Mexico. Former world chess champion Anatoly Karpov of the Soviet Union beat his compatriot Jaan Ehlvest by 2.5 points to 0.5 on Thursday to reach the final. He now faces Victor Gavrikov, Gavrikov beat Vladimir Tukmakov, also, of the Soviet Union, 2.5 points to 1.5 in the other semi-final. Four matches of the final were played last night. The winner will be the first player to reach 4.5 points over the two days.

Currie falls victim to her style

By Robin Oakley Political Editor

The resignation of Mrs Edwina Currie amid a flurry of egg producers' writs removes from the Government ranks the most newsworthy member of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's team.

As a senior minister put it this week: "Name one other member of this Government beside the Prime Minister who can be identified in pubs up and down the land merely by a Christian name".

Mrs Thatcher has a genuine soft spot for the headline-hogging Derby-shire MP who reaches the parts of the popular press that other ministers rarely penetrate.

The Prime Minister hates to let a minister go when that minister is under fire from the Opposition. Ministerial mistakes are usually punished discreetly at a later reshuffle. Nor will the Prime Minister be

Reaction to the controversy

enveloping Mrs Currie varied

sharply in her Derbyshire

constituency yesterday be-tween loyal supporters closing ranks behind "our Edwina"

and egg farmers who hlame her for destroying their

Before news of her resigna-

tion came through, the tele-

phones at the constituency

party headquarters in Swad lincote village, near Burton

upon Trent, rang continuously

The reaction had been a

mixture of surprise at the

controversy her comments

had caused and anger at the

"treacherous back-stabbing"

Mr David Canzini, constit-uency agent, said Mrs Currie

had been hurt by the reaction

nella poisoning from eggs. "She thinks that what she

said is right. She knew her

remarks would cause a lot of

debate and that is what she

"I think the vehemence of

works for anyway.

dangers of contracting salmo- yesterday.

by backbenchers.

with calls of encouragement.

livelihoods.

Constituency is

split on support

for 'our Edwina'

surprised and hurt her. She

finds it difficult to come to

terms with the disloyalty

Mr Fred Critchlow, an egg

farmer in Foston, eight miles

from where Mrs Currie lives at

weekends in a converted

windmill with her husband

Ron, an accountant, and their

A week ago Mr Critchlow

berated her over her remarks and predicted thousands of

hens would have to be slaugh-

tered. He said be was aghast at her reply. "She asked, 'Aren't you insured? You farmers

should conduct your business

like any other. I could not

believe it. I told her no

insurance company would

provide cover for a situation

like this brought about by rash

"I told her she would stand

accused of causing hundreds

of thousands of birds to be

two children.

of her House of Commons statements by a government peers to her comments on the minister", Mr Critchlow said

some of her colleagues has affects of her statement."

This view was not shared by

which has been shown."

pleased at allowing victory to the envious and to the anti-semitic elements in her party who were among those who climbed on the anti-

Edwina bandwagon. One senior minister told The Times earlier in the week: "We thought that by just keeping her down in the dungeons for a few days with the handcuffs on we could see it through and keep her".

The political crescendo, which has set off furious tussies between the agriculture and health ministries, proved impossible to surmount without the sacrifice of a victim.

Mrs Currie has always lived dangerously. She created, maintained and flaunted a high profile which helped her to rise to prominence faster than most of her contemporaries. But the penalty of living in the spotlight is that the blemishes show as well as the dimples. She has appeared at times to be inebriated by the exuberance of her own media personality and has now attracting the notice of some of the 40 failed one political breath test too

Her Birmingham-cum-Liverpool classless accent, the bright make-up and eye-catching clothes have made her a target for a whole breed. If it is still a mistake in the Conservative Party to brandish your ambition it is all the more so for a woman.

The tragedy of her rise and fall is that behind the gimmickry and headline-chasing Mrs Currie has been one of the hardest-working ministers in the Government. She owed her promotion not to having what has now been dubbed one of the most expensive mouths in political history but to the fact that the Tory whips could rely on her to be available and to turn in a workmanlike speech when they needed one. She can serve it up with or without gimmicks.

She won her Derbyshire South seat

for the first time in 1983 after

constituencies to which she applied after hrandishing a pair of handcuits in the law and order debate at the Conservative Party conference in 1981. She bludgeoned her way on to radio and television shows, developed a relationship with the popular press and, in the words of one partadmirer "irritated the hell out of her

fellow MPs". On the eggs question, what remains a puzzle is that Mrs Currie was not prepared to take some of the steam out of the affair in the early stages by British politics in which it is considered an impossible thing for a minister ever to admit an error

without instantly being turned into a pillar of salt.

Pinfanitain

Egg producers go to court



Plaintiff

INTER CHEETE (MARRIED WIMON)

27 Whitehall.

gassed and buried, and that at the end of the week her head would roll. She just did not understand the severity of the affects of her statement."

Top: Mr John Cole, managing director of Thames Valley Eggs, which on Thursday became the first company to serve a writ on Mrs Edwina Currie for her remarks about salmonella poisoning. Its solicitor, Mr Adrian Budgen, said "substantial" damages would be sought.

Below: the writ from West Country Eggs, one of 10 issued yesterday.

confessing that she had gone too far with one throw-away phrase and that she was sorry if it had been misunderstood. In the end, it seems, she is a victim of the adversarial style of

immensely successfut efforts 1 (improve the economy have man possible record funding for the National Health Service, producing standards of health care for all our people, especially women, unrivalled in the warld. Greater prosperity has also made people far more interested in the promotion and preservation af good health, a movement in which I am proud to have played a part. played a part.

"You first appointed me as Parliamentary Private Secretary to Sir Keith (now Lord) Joseph at the Department of Education and Science. Since then, I have served as a Minister under three-Servetaries of State — Norman

served as a Minister under three-Secretaries of State — Norman Fowler, John Moore and Kenneth Clarke — and would like to put on record my admira-tion for all of them, and appreciation of their help und onidance.

fulty, I had conclude.

fulty. I nad concluded should offer my resignate the Government. I think page all the circumstances this ph.

"It has been both a pris-and a pleasure to be a Mini

in the Department of Heal under your leadership. You immensely successfut efforts 1

gunance.

"Finally, my thanks to you personally, for your encouragement, for your wisdom and courage, and for alt you are doing for our country. I remain a firm and committed supporter of the Conservative Party and this nment and look forward to . further successes in the years to

Yours ever copies released by Downing Street bare no signature].

Mrs Thatcher wrote in reply:

"I have received your letter...
today with great personal sadness. It has, I know, been a very
difficult time and I fully under-

difficult time and I fully under-stand your reasons for resigning.

"We shall miss the great" energy and enthusiasm you have— brought to all your work both for the Government and for the party in the country. No one could have worked harder or more toyally, not only for your own department but in support of Government policy as a the Department

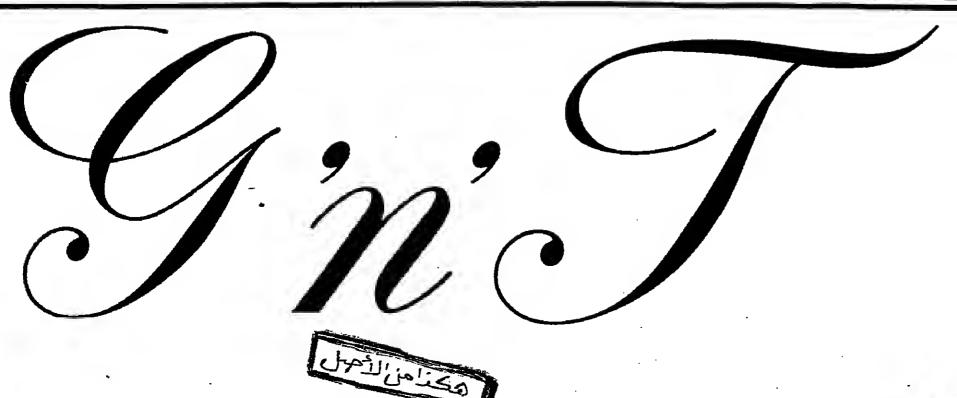
Health, you have made a tremendous contribution, among other things, in making all of us realise that better health is not just the responsibility of doctors and nurses but that so much depends on the way we look after ourselves and our families. "In the country you have been

tireless in promoting our cause.

Locally, you helped to achieve notable successes in Derbyshire where most recently we won control of Derby City Council.

"I know that you will remain a staunch supporter for everything we are trying to do. We shall continue to work together for what we both believe in."







By Tim Jones and Rodney Cowton

mally acknowledged that more than four times a year. defective installation of crash at Clapham Junction, which yesterday claimed its thirty-fourth victim.

That was stated at the end of three days of hearings by an internal inquiry into the disaster, British Rail said that the equipment itself was not

Meanwhile, rail union leaders condemned British Rail management after it emerged that one witness to the internal inquiry broke down as he explained the pressures under which he and his colleagues worked.

According to a rail union source, the witness told the inquiry that some of the rail staff involved in signal work in the area had worked seven days a week for a month before Monday's crash.

The inquiry, which will pass on its findings to the Department of Transport, has been told, according to the union source, that some signals and telecommunications staff at Clapham had worked 60

Other allegations were that staff worked alone at signal testing, which required six people, had to sort out complex electrical equipment in the relay room beneath the

joint effort with other agencies

ber of London boroughs in-

cluded the development of

joint investigative techniques.

The policy reflected an

intention to protect and care

for the victim, rehabilitate the

"Under this scheme, a

police officer for every di-

with the reponsibility for

approaching his or her opp-

family and deal with the

offender.

against child abuse.

670.000 Grad o 112 Auto in th fer

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2000

British Rail last night for- to work overtime if off sick ellers in the Southern Region Mr Jimmy Knapp, general "Forcing people to work long making these complaints hours even if sick, and under known to the public inquiry." threats of financial penalties,

> scandal". He said the people respon- the second time this week. sible for imposing such conditions on staff had to be

particularly if the safety of the

identified. The union plans to use the public inquiry into the disaster to lodge complaints about long working bours placing "intolerable strains" on staff.

A spokesman for the union said that in the Southern Region highly experienced maintenance crew forfeited additional payments worth up to £30 a week, which had been introduced to retain them, if they missed a single day off work through illness.

"Effectively, they have to work an additional shift every week in order to bring up their pay to the rates enjoyed by the rest of industry. At best it's daft and at worst dangerous".

Mr Neil Milligan, general secretary of Aslef, the train drivers' union, said 60-hour weeks were not uncommon. "It is a direct consequence of monetarist policy that British Rail has not been recruiting

Police move on child abuse

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Eight specialist teams are social workers brought to-being set up across the Metro-politan Police force as part of a National Children's Home. report is the need for the ready acceptance that no single agency has pre-eminent res-

procedures and relationships

The notion of working to-

gether, strongly advocated both before and after the Cleveland child abuse inquiry, was one with which the Metropolitan Police and the

police service in general was

very familiar. It had been a

ning for nearly half a decade.

osite number in social ser about the development of face as we all begin to move vices. Sir Peter told a inter-agency co-operation as closer together in tackling

"What is perhaps different

with Social Services.

gainst child abuse, wake of the tragic deaths of Jasmine Beckford, Heidi

tan Police Commissioner, said Koseda, Tyra Hendy and

vesterday a code of practice more recently Kimberly

jointly recognized by police Carlile caused the Metropoli-

and social services in a num- tan Police to examine its own

vision in our force is charged cornerstone of formal plan-

The various inquiries in the

know to their cost, it has signalling equipment was secretary of the National trains being taken out of responsible for Monday's rail Union of Railwaymen, said: service. We shall certainly be creek at Clapham Innetion

The track on which Monday's collision occurred was public is concerned, is a major reopened yesterday afternoon after having been closed for

> After the disaster on Monday morning the main line from Clapham Junction to-wards the South-west was closed until Wednesday morning while the wreckage was

But the track on which the collision had occurred was closed again on Thursday morning because a further signal fault had been reported. That was caused by an over-sensitive detector unnecessarily setting signals at red. Although that was repaired

by about midday on Thursday, engineers began a comprehensive testing of the signalling system in the area around the site of the crash, and Southern Region said the line would not reopen until they were satisfied that the signalling system was working perfectly. As a result it was another 24 hours before the track was re-opened.

The latest victim of the crash was named as Mr Stephen Dyer, 35, of Downlands signal box by the light of a the staff it needs in order to Close, Southampton, who torch and forfeited the chance balance the books. As trav-died in hospital.

ponsibility for child abuse. This could leave some of us,

who like both clarity and

control, feeling just a little uncomfortable and perhaps

"Co-ordination of activity

across services in such circum-

stances calls for a truly co-

operative spirit within all the

agencies concerned, and a real

sensitivity for the problems of

the other organizations

"This lack of clarity which the philosophy may initially produce, and the need to

subjugate one's own organiza-

tion to others, I believe will be

one of the main obstacles we

even ineffective.

involved.





Christmas fare for Thatcher

Mrs Margaret Thatcher accepting a decoratively wrapped turkey, handed over at 10 Downing Street yesterday by Mr David Newton, of the British Turkey Federation.

Prince's charity loses grant

small number of projects,

including housing improve-ment schemes, which are expected to continue with

funding from other sources.

Mr Tom Shebbeare, direc-

tor of the Prince's Trust, the

umbrella body which runs the

Prince's charities, said yes-

terday that from the start of

next year, the emphasis of their work on housing and the homeless would switch from fund-raising to the setting up

of an advisory committee to

be known as the Prince's

An inner-city charity launched charity was set up in 1986 with and headed by the Prince of the imprecise brief of improv- fated from birth. Thanks to an Wales is facing closure ing the built environment in administrative bungle, it was because its main source of inner cities. funding is being cut off at the It has become involved in a

New managers brought in by the Prince to reorganize and improve the efficiency of the charitable trusts which bear his name have decided to withdraw their £40,000-a-year support for Inner City Aid, on the ground of what is described unofficially as its disappointing performance.

end of the year.

Canon Sebastian Charles, director of the Inner City Trust, said the organization's trustees, would meet early in the New Year to decide its future. Its work, he said, had Housing Advisory Group, will now be run been "put in suspended which would seek to promote management board, animation" until then. The good practice in the field. Prince as president,

Inner City Aid has been illadministrative bungle, it was launched by the Prince on the same day he launched another charity, the Prince's Youth Business Trust, headed by Lord Boardman, chairman of National Westminster Bank.

In the first year, Lord Boardman's committee raised £2.5 million, while Inner City Aid attracted little more than £30,000. Both were chasing funds from the same sources.

In a move to simplify the bureaucracy and cut out overlapping, the Prince's Trust and its associated Royal Jubilee Trusts, previously run by five separate committees, will now be run by one management board, with the

Space agency cash battle resolved

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A year-long dispute was set- independent review of the vehicle by the turn of the tled yesterday over Britain's costs and management of the century. refusal to increase payments science programme, for research to the European Britain will have Britain will have contrib-Space Agency.

At a meeting of the agency council the other 12 member £1.3 billion this year. countries accepted an offer from Britain agreeing to an annual 5 per cent rise in the totally to collaborate in a £7 telescopes and interplanetary agency's budget over the next billion project aimed at a space probes at a cost of £2, three years, in return for an manned flight by a European billion.

when the Government refused

It also expressed reservations about proposed inuted more than £80 million to creases in spending on a the space agency's budget of £1.3 billion this year.

2000. The project is planned The dispute began last year to cover the next 20 years, involving missions orbiting





Almost nothing is known for certain about the man who has influenced millions down the centuries . . .

Next Saturday a special Christmas edition of the Sunday Times magazine will be published with The Times. In it, a number of eminent scholars, including the Bishop of Durham, Donald Cupitt and Edward Norman, look at the historical evidence and attempt to answer the question: who was Jesus?

Is Christmas still a pagan festival? In the same issue, Anthony Burgess discusses what has become of Christianity in the centuries since "Christ's most astonishing and unacceptable act - the miracle of the last supper", and looks to the future of the western world's greatest religion.

The Times has many other treats in store this Christmas. Indeed, on Boxing Day it will be the only quality newspaper on sale. To secure your copies over the whole Christmas period, place an order with your newsagent today.

WIN £56,000

 Yesterday's prize was unclaimed; Accumulator rises to £56,000, and there is the weekly prize Accumulator at £8,000, Page 25.

Police to review riot procedure

By Stewart Tendier Crime Reporter

Chief constables and Scotland Yard commanders are to review police strategies for riot control following the bandling of the demonstration outside News International's plant at Wapping, cast London, two

VERIS 280. Plans for the review are being drawn up as the Crown Prosecution Service and police finalize a list of 24 to 26 officers who face charges of assault after complaints at the demonstration.

Summonses are expected to be served against them after Christmas and the delay in telling officers who will and who will not be charged is likely to rouse fresh London police criticism of the handling of the inquiry conducted by Northamptonshire police. Earlier this week the au-

thority confirmed there would be charges but gave no details. The policing review will centre on a manual drawn up by the Association of Chief Police Officers and used by all

meeting of senior police and advocated in the Butler-Sloss child abuse." Safe deposit robbery case

Staff all in plot, court told

was to be pulled off with the knowledge and consent of everyone who worked there, a Central Criminal Court jury

was told yesterday. The alleged mastermind behind Britain's biggest raid, Valerio Viccei, aged 33, said he was told by his superiors that the manager, the super-visor, and two security guards

were all in on the plot. He told the jury: "I was told everyone would co-operate." I thought they were joking and I started to laugh. I asked who was the inside man and they said again: 'Everyone'."

Mr Viccei, an Italian, said he was hired by a former ne was hired by a former soldier called Gerry, and an Arab businessman, Abu Sharif, an Arab businessman, to plan and carry out the tobbery. At first, he thought they were "playing a game".

But as they started to produce maps and documents relating to the safe deposit centre, he realised they were

The £40 million Knights-holders would be able to make bridge safe deposit robbery greatly inflated insurance claims if the "robbery" was

Mr Viccei said: "They asked me what I thought were the chances of success. I told them if everyone was co-operating it would be a case of walking in and walking out. The chances

of success were 100 per cent." The two men promised Mr Viccei a third of the proceeds in return for leading the gang

He said: "Their intention was just to show, in the eyes of the law, that the boxes had been forcefully opened. The contents of the boxes they were talking about were jewellery, gold, paintings, anything?" thing."

Mr Viccei, of no fixed address in this country, denies robbery and firearms charges. The prosecution alleges that he led a gang which stole valuables worth at least £40 million from the safe deposit centre on July 12 last

The same of the sa

Mr Viccei said he met Gerry and Sharif in May last year. Mr Viccei said: They told me that in the end everyone would be happy. The box They asked him about safe deposit box centres. The men

showed him maps of the Knightsbridge safe deposit centre where Mr Viccei was a customer. He was also shown copies of instructions to sec-

unity guards on how they should react to a robbery. Mr Viccei said he was asked to draw up a report on how the centre could be robbed.

A week later, he banded it over although, he said, he had still not been told why the two men wanted this information. "I was fascinated. It looked like a joke. To be honest, I

carry out the robbery. "I knew what I should answer. But that time I said yes", Mr Viccei told the court.

Also in the dock are Parvez Latif, aged 31, owner of the safe deposit box centre, of Alversione, Willesden, north-west London, David Phole, aged 48, of Spencer Road, Wandsworth, sonth London, and Peter O'Donoghue, aged 34, of St John's Wood High Street. They all deny robbery and possessing firearms.

Higgins' fare dodge charge is withdrawn

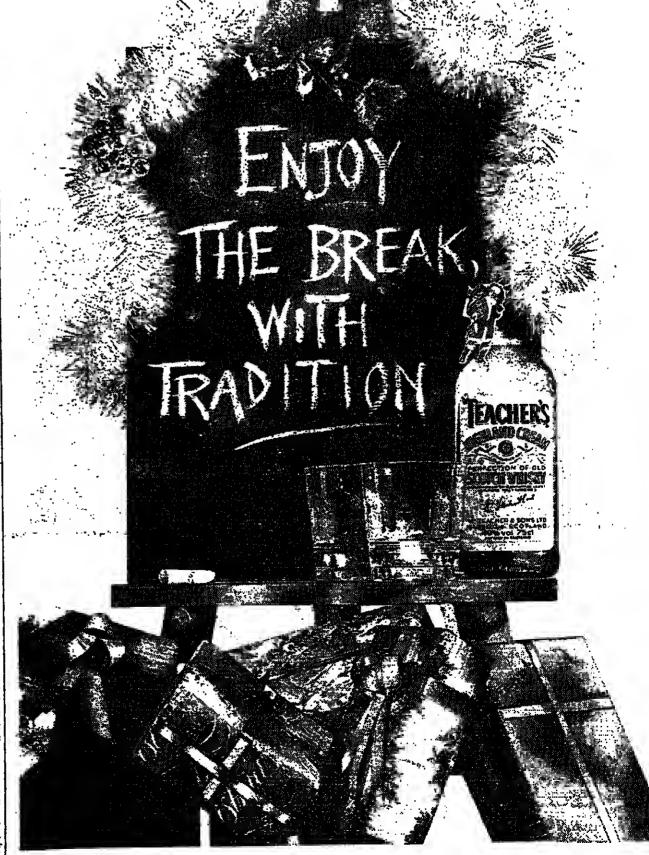
A charge against Alex Higgins, the snooker player, of alleg-edly refusing to pay a taxi fare was dropped yesterday.

Miss Janet Boston, for the prosecution, told Bow Street magistrates, central London, that Mr Higgins and a friend hailed a cab just before 2am on November 25 this year.

"A dispute occured as to the amount of the fare with Mr Higgins offering fl and the cab driver insisting that the right money £2.20 should be However, Miss Boston said:

"Having looked carefully, those instructing have decided there is insufficient evidence of dishonesty to proceed." Mr Higgins, of Wilmslow Road, Fallowfield, Manchester, had been accused of dishonestly making off without having paid and with

intent to avoid payment of



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INVENTURY CONSISTS OF LIPSH AND EARLY ZOUR CENTURY PERSIAN BUGS AND CARPETS FROM THE MORE IMPORTANT WEAVING AREAS OF THE EAST, FINE CONTEMPORARY AND NOMADIC RUGS INCLUDING FABULOUS SILK RUGS AND CARPETS WITH ENTRIES FROM OTHER SOURCES.

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Moore unfolds Bill aimed at cutting benefit for workshy

By Jili Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

The Government yesterday will then telephone the emintroduced a tough cost-cut-ting package of measures aimed at taking the workshy off unemployment benefit and into, if necessary, lower paid

Under the Social Security Bill 1988-89, which will save the Government £140 million, people claiming un-employment benefit will have to show that they are "actively seeking work", or risk losing

Claimants will also be unable to turn down a job merely because of the rates of pay. The Bill also includes a

elause to extend the upper age limit for entitlement to mubility allowance from 75 to 80 and to eliminate sex dis- more in at least 13 of the 26 crimination in occupational pension schemes.

Launching the Bill yes-terday Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, said that under the measures, which reflected "major changes in the unemployment market", at least 50,000 people were expected to he taken off unemployment

registers. He said that a recent London Labour Market Survev showed that 25 per cent of the unemployed interviewed had oot looked for work in the previous week and nearly half had not looked in the previous four weeks. Five per cent had oot looked for work at all, Mr Moore said.

The 1987 Labour Force Survey showed that 37,000 claimants were not seeking work actively and unemployment statistics published on Thursday showed that there were 700,000 unfilled vacancies, he said.

Under Clause 7 in the Bill, claimants will now have to demonstrate that they have taken steps to find a job withio, in most cases, the last seven to 14 days.

Initially claimants will have to "illustrate io conversation" that they have registered with an employment agency, visited a Jobcentre or applied for a job. Evidence that they have read newspapers and journals looking for job vacancies will also be considered.

If the claimant adviser in the unemployment benefit office suspects they are being dishonest he can ask the elaimant to produce evidence of letters of application or a record of telephone calls to prospective employers.

welfare benefits system would

add to the plight of some of

the 30,000 homeless people

aged between 16 and 19 on

In a speech before presenting

an £800,000 cheque to Charity

Projects in London, he said

such people "are prey to

pimps and pushers. By ac-

cident I am sure, their plight is

"Fnr, thanks to the

reorganization of the welfare

benefits - a much-needed

effort in the long-term - one

or two anomalies have ap-

peared, one of which is the

ending of any sort of benefits

blow is only nne of many

London's streets.

about to get worse.

ployer or Jobcentre to check the information. If the claimant cannot produce evidence the case will be referred to the adjudications officer and depending on his decision, benefit could be stopped

immediately.

Mr Moore said that he would expect all those claiming unemployment benefit to actively seek work on a weekly basis. The timing could, however, depend on the geo-graphical area and the local

Under Clause 8 people who have exhausted their entitlement to unemployment benefit will requalify when they have worked for 16 hours or weeks immediately before a further claim.

At present the unemployed can requalify if they have worked 16 hours a week for 13



Mr Moore: "All claimants must actively seek work" weeks in any period over a

Clause 9 of the Bill prevents unemployed people turning down jobs merely because of the rate for the job, after a maximum of 13 weeks.

Mr Moore said that the maximum period before benefit would be withdrawn could be extended in special cases depending on job availability but it could be less than 13

Under existing legislation unemployed people have to provide a good cause for for men and women in refusing a job offer but pay will no longer be considered a "good cause." The clause will effectively stop those in highly paid specialized jobs refusing lower paid work such as

dustmen or cleaners. It closes a loophole high-lighted by the case of Dr Julius Tomin, the Czech dissident philosopher.

He lost an appeal against the withdrawal of benefit after as long as the state scheme had

Prince speaks for homeless youth

Prince Edward gave a warning which can wreck a young life. London in the hope that they

it is merely a vicious down-

ward spiral with no escape,

except through places like

Centre Point", he said, refer-

ring to a London hostel for

"This hits exactly the work

of places like Centre Point and

inevitably the support from

Charity Projects - in bald figures a lot of income of

The Prince indicated that be

"Nobody becomes home-

"True, they come to

would be making the diffi-

culties facing teenagers one of

less by choice - so utterly

broke that they are reduced to

homeless young people.

around £30,000 a year."

his favourite causes.

yesterday that changes in the For ooce in the homeless trap

studying in the Bodleian Library Oxford while trying to get an academic post.

A person who has been out of work continuously for 12 months will be able to take up a job and then give it up within a prescribed period if it does not work out without being disqualified for unemployment benefits.

Under Clause 18 employers and insurance companies will have to pay a greater proportion of compensation awards for industrial accidents and

At the moment social security benefits are often paid to a person after an accident, njury or disease.

However, they may also be compensated by their employer through an insurer. At the moment the employer can deduct part or all of the value of some social security benefits from the compensation award, leading to a double

Under the new legislation the Government will be able to recover from the employer the full costs of certain social security benefits during the period before the settlement. The victim will continue to

receive his full benefit entitlement although the move is expected to save the Govern-ment £38 million, Mr Moore

However, figures published by the Department of Social Security yesterday show that some employees could lose under the new laws.

A person on invalidity benefit, for example, would get £647 less under the new recovery scheme if the settlement took three years. A government commis-

signed survey carried out by Touche Ross management consultants estimated that employers' insurance premiums could rise between 8 and 16 per cent. Clause 19 provides for the

implementation of the EEC directive on equal treatment occupational pension schemes. However, Mr Moore made

it clear that the Government would be able to introduce oarrow exemptioos, Schemes would not be required to provide widowers'

for widows. The directive did not require equality of pension age

benefits oo the same terms as

can find a job. But more often

than oot it is because they

have been forced to leave

home, sexually abused or harassed. London is often their first choice — and their

worst - but they don't know

He complained that many

charitable projects set up to

help teenagers did not receive

the attention and support won

most adults are embarrassed

to admit that they were ever a

cenager, let alone admit that

they may have made mistakes

like any other kid at that age", the Prince said. "Mention

youth or teenagers and most people switch off."

"Don't ask me why but

until they have got here."

by many other causes.

libel win Mrs Carmen Proetta, who gave an eye-witness account of

the shooting of IRA terrorists at the Gibraltar inquest, won substantial libel damages in the High Court yesterday over rice and drugs allegations The interpreter for a Soan-

ish law firm also won an apology for the distress and imbarrassment caused to her and her children by the allegations, published in The Sun in April and May this year. Mrs Proetta's solicitor, Mr Oscar Beuselinck, told Mr Justice Potter the "highly defamatory" allegations were

untruc. They claimed she was, or and been, party to criminal activities involving vice and drugs and so hated the British that she had fabricated her claim to have seen the

shooting. The newspaper and its editor, Mr Kelvin MacKenzie, now fully accepted she is not, and never has been, involved in criminal activities and does not hate the British.

The newspaper agreed to pay undisclosed damages and

Epping fuels Tory fears over next poll

Conservatives were yesterday looking anxiously to the forthcoming poll in Richmond, Yorkshire, poll after the Epping Forest by election saw a sharp drop in their share of the vote and indicated some revival for centre party politics. Meanwhile Labour was

back on the ropes, having been beaten into third place and failed to make any progress in the Epping seat only a month after losing a 19,500 majority to the Scottish nationalists in Glasgow Govan.

Though Mr Steve Norris, a former MP, won the Epping seat for the Conservatives he did so with a majority of just 4,504, compared with the 21,513 margin enjoyed by the late Sir John Biggs-Davison at the last general election.

Too much should not be read into the results after a poll of only 49 per cent, but only in one by-election contest in the last parliament - at Greenwich - did the Conservative share of the vote drop by a bigger margin. Though there was no mass

protest vote, only 13,000 voters turned out to support the Conservative candidate, compared with 31,500 at the last

The Tory share of the vote fell by 22 per cent from 61 per cent to 39 per cent; Labour's share remained identical at 18 per cent, but the Democrats (SLD) put their share of the vote up from the 19 per cent the Alliance had at the last election to 26 per cent. The two former Alliance

parties between them were just 433 votes short of the Tory total in what was the fifth safest Tory seat in the country, a point which under-lines their ability to cut each other's throats and the problems they face in making a breakthrough with a by-election victory. The Owenite SDP managed only 12 per cent of the vote. Conservative strategists will

be alarmed at the Epping implications for Richmond, where a by-election is due in the spring after Mr Leon Brittan leaves in January to take up his post as a European The result indicates disillu-

sion with the Tory perfor-



Mr Steve Norris, a former Tory MP, savouring his victory in Epping Forest yesterday with his wife Vicky, and sons

mance in this Parliament but not yet any active movement against the Government.

Three factors will worry them. The first is that the Democrats appear to be back in business and seeing off the SDP Protest voters can start taking Mr Paddy Ashdown's party seriously again as a suitable vehicle after the Epping result.

Secondly, the pre-Christ-mas apathy of the Epping contest will not apply to the Richmond contest. Thirdly, there is frequently

a bigger swing against a defending party if the de-parted MP has not died but has left politics for a lucrative post elsewhere. Though Mr Brittan has been a popular and hard-working constituency MP that would certainly apply in his case. Labour's disastrous show-

ing in the Epping contest despite the Government's economic troubles on interest Oppositions expect to prosper can offer little hone of Labour rates and the balance of mounting an effective chall-enge at the next election and it payments was compounded yesterday by a opinion poll

is bound to san morale. The result may, however,

EPPING Steven J Norris (C)
Andrew J Thompson (Dem)
Stephen W Marray (Lab)
Michael G Petimen (SDP)
Andrew M Simms (Green)
Tins Wingfield (INF)
Lord Devid Sutch (Loony)
Jekki Moore (Rainbow All) Bryan G Gooder (Ind)

Percentage of vote: C 39%, Lab 19%, Dam 26%, SDP 12%, Oth 4%, 1987: Skr J Biggs-Davison (C) 31,536, A Humphris (SDP/All) 10,023, S Murray (Lab) 9,499, R Deshard (Green) 685. Denhard (Green) Con Maj 21,513.

showing the Tories in an 11 per cent lead nationally and with Mr Kinnock's personal rating down to its lowest level

ever at 26 per cent. That confirms that Labour, unlike Opposition parties previously, is failing to profit from the sharp fall in the economic optimism index. A dismal third place at the stage of a Parliament where

help Mr Kinnock and those responsible for the party's policy review to push through

more radical changes than the left had previously been prepared to permit.
The SDP will claim that it is gathering support, having improved on its 5 per cent share of the vote in the earlier Kensington by-election. It had claimed Epping as its natural

territory and must be dis-

appointed by this result as the

crunch point for the party Members have to decide now whether the party is going anywhere and whether they

should renew subscriptions due next month. Mr Peter Brooke, the Conservative Party chairman, said: "We have lost half the safe seats we have defended since 1979. To hold Epping

this stage in the parliament". Mr Paddy Ashdown was jubilant over his party's showing. He said that had it not been for the intervention of

solidly is very encouraging at

Dr David Owen's SDP with its "spoiling tactics" splitting the centre vote, the Tories would have faced a real threat of defeat

He appealed to Dr Owen to stand aside at Richmond to give the Democrats a clear run at the Tories.

He said: "This historic result coofirms our position as the main opposition to the Tories in a large number of seats. We are established in secood place - and we are on

"We are now poised to take over from the Labour Party as the major opposition to the Tories. Epping has shown that Dr Owen's efforts have petered out.

A Labour spokesman insisted: "It is impossible to read anything into this byelection except the massive drop in turn-out and the dramatic loss of confidence in the Government "Its effect on Labour will be

to reinforce our determination to get our policies right for the Something stirs, page 10

Gibraltar Citizens' privacy witness in Bill to curb press violations

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

the House".

the media violating the pri- parties who earlier this year conventions of the police, the vacy of individual citizens is signed a Commons motion courts and the Press. Someto be bought before the Comsupporting the concept of a thing has to be done to protect mons and stands a strong right to privacy.

The Protection of Privacy Ivan Lawrence, QC, and Mr Bill will be introduced by Mr Peter Temple-Morris, the John Browne, Conservative MP for Winchester, who came top of the recent ballot for private members' Bills.

It would create a law similiar to that applying to libel and slander. Citizens who had statements printed about them which were true but an apparent invasion of their privacy could sue for damages. The courts would then decide whether the publication of that private information was legitimately in the public interest.

Mr Browne, whose own marital affairs have received extensive press coverage, is guaranteed a second reading vote on the Bill, probably in January, by virtue of his position in the ballot. While the Government is

Beirut, as one "grotesque" example of invasion of Another was the identificalikely to remain neutral, he tion of the victim in the Faling can expect the support of vicarage rape case. "This was had their privacy invaded.

Radical legislation to prevent more than 300 MPs of all cootrary to all the cormal

"There are many other examples both at national and prominent Tory barrister MPs, Mr Merlyn Rees, the local level where unwarranted invasion of privacy can result former Labour Home Sec-retary, Mr Denis Healey, forin distress, embarrassment and eveo career damage." mer Labour Chancellor, and Sir Bernard Braine, "Father of Mr Browne is consulting

barristers in an attempt to build into the Bill guidelines Mr Tony Worthington, the on what constitutes the public Labour MP for Clydebank and Milngavie, who came second in the ballot, has interest. He admitted that would be complex, "but no more complex than ruling announced that he is introducopon such matters as ining a Bill giving a statutory decency, obscenity and tresright of reply to victims of unfair media coverage.

Countries such as the United States, France and Mr Browne yesterday cited the harrassment of the wife of Switzerland have laws to pro-Mr Terry Waite, the Arch-bishop of Canterbury's special tect privacy, and Mr Browne rejects claims that the Press envoy who was kidnapped in Council provides protection in Britain. He quoted Sir Zelman Cowen, the former Press Council chairman, as saying he was "sick at heart" at the situation of people who

Air-lesson gift tokens 'a success' By Harvey Elliott

Air Correspondent

More than 30 flying clubs around Britain have joined forces to offer Christmas gift tokens to enable would-be pilots to take their first flying The youchers, costing either

£30 or £45, entitle the holder to a lesson in a single-engined aircraft Mr Richard Gyselynck,

director of the Wycombe Air Centre who developed the gift token scheme, yesterday said it had already been phenonemal success". Anyone who catches the

flying bug after their initial flight could then enrole for a full private pilot's licence

Correction

A report yesterday on legal arguments about the Irish decision out to extradite Father Patrick Ryan should have stated that the Dublin government is not prepared to concede to London's demands to do away with the Irish attorney general's adjudication function an extra-dition warrants.

December 16 1988

to 16 to 17-year-olds. "This begging. ... nobody.

PARLIAMENT

Urgent moves to help poultry farmers

Immediate talks are to take place between the Ministry of Agriculture and poultry farmers to work out a scheme to help the industry, but by the salminella which will enable eggs to be industry hit by the salminnella scare. Mr John MacGregor, Minister of Agriculture, Fish-eries and Food, said in a Commons statement. He prom-ised that details of the scheme would be given on Monday.

He emphasized a number of times that his proposals to help the industry were not com-pensation. He was dealing with

Opposition MPs had demanded a statement after complaining that the media were being briefed on the situa-tion, but the House Chimmons was not being informed. Mr David Clark, Opposition kesman on agriculture, said

that the problem could have been eased two weeks earlier if the Prime Munister had done her duty then and sacked Mrs Edwina Currie, Under Secretary of State for Health, whose indiscreet and irresponsible comments had caused the problem.

Mr MacGregor said in his two weeks a great deal of uncertainty had arisen nver the health implications for consumers and this has caused a sharp decline in egg sales.

Medical Officer and to ensure that the facts were elear to

The Government had taken steps, through a series of newspapers advertisements, to re-iterate the advice of the Chief

In view of the adverse impact that this uncertainty has

moved so as to help support the market at a critical period. We with a view to implementation within a few days. I am also in touch with the European Commission in respect of any Community aspects of these

He would make a Commons statement about the scheme on Monday and there would be no

Mr Clark said that he was glad that the minister had finally succumbed to pressure and come to the House.

It was pleasing that at long last the Government had admitted the seriousness of the matter which had been brought to such a level by the indiscreet and irresponsible statement by the then Under Secretary of State for Health which had devestated

the industry. Whatever the compensation, the indiscretion would have a long and lasting effect on many egg and poultry producers. It was ironic that the taxpayer would have to foot the bill for

The first objective must be to try to restore public confidence in the industry and hopefully the first step had been taken with Mrs Currie's resignation. The Government had no alternative but to compensate those egg producers whose busi-nesses had suffered as a result of SALMONELLA



Mr Clark: Mrs Currie should

have been sacked. ministerial incompetence. What compensation would there be for workers made redundant?

A long-term solution was needed to the problem given the situation that the Government had created. The only answer was to try to reduce the supply of eggs which, tragically, meant culture a fair repropries of the culling a fair proportion of the British poultry flock. What plans had the minister lucers who would be forced

them healthy, in order to reduce the stock? Had the minister any idea how much that would cost? Would it be £10 million, or the

£40 million which the National Farmers' Union had put for-

Mr MacGregor said that the Government had been taking a number of steps since the sum-mer to deal with a new and grave problem identified with the one type of salmonella. It abnormal market In normal circumstances the scheme would have taken weeks, if not months to for-mulate. It had taken a little time

to produce the scheme because of the most unusual situation and the state of the market. "It is wrong to call it compensation. It is a measure to deal with the market situation itself (Labour laughter). There are many practical difficulties

about a scheme of this kind. That is why I would not wish to comment on the details until Mr Nicholas Winterton (Mac-clesticid, C) said that the tragedy was that Mrs Currie had not apologized for an error. If she

had, the House would have forgiven ber. Was the Government liable cause of a mistake by a

Mr MacGregor The an-nouncement implies no accept-ance of any legal liability on the part of the Government. The risk from consuming coss is very small and I hope that the public will go on consuming eggs as avidly as they always have, and as I always do.

Mr David Steel (Tweeddale, Etnick and Lauderdale, Dem)

said that it had been sugge

that here was a casual victim of market forces, but it was more

"Some of us will never understand why an instant apology was not made." There had been about one outbreak a week, while 200 million eggs a week were con-

samed. "The restoration of a sense of proportion is more important than shovelling taxpayers' mon-ey at it." Mr MacGregor agreed that it was important to keep a sense of

perspective, or to restore it. Mr Dafydd Wigley (Caernar-fon, Pl C), nn the destruction of poultry, asked the minister to appeal to producers not to take irrevocable action until the Government gave details of the

Mr MacGregor said that that was precisely why he had sig-nalled the Government's inten-tion. They had wanted to give assurance over the weekend. Sir Peter Emery (Honiton, C) asked for a direct contradiction of what Mrs Currie had said, that most egg production was affected by salmonelia.

Mr MacGregor: It is not the case that most eggs are affected. Mr Patrick Cormack (South Staffordshire, C) said that this had been an outbreak of hysteris. There was no need for people to worry about ordinary

Mr MacGregor: He is right in

saying that people should return to their normal practices, taking

full notice of the advertise we have put in the newspapers this morning.

The Government will bosour its promise to bring forward legislation during this Parliament on human-embryo research and the Warnerk vanuet Mr David Warnock report, Mr David Mellor, Minister of State for

Health, told MPs.

Winding up a debate on embryo research and the law on abortion, he said that there was a clear recognition of the seed to have a framework within which such research and develop was permitted.

The Government continued to regard abortion as a matter for private Member's legislation. It would not be appropriate for the Government to seek in any way to take over responsibility. It was clear that the line drawn by the Infant Life Preservation Act, based on 28 weeks, was not the right one and

24 weeks was now right. The Government accepted that. Mr John Watts (Slough, C), spening the debate, said that after 21 inglorious years of the Abortion Act 1967, 2.6 million unborn children had been killed

Out of that appalling total, only 123 abortious had been performed in an emergency to save the life of the mother. "I do not believe that it was the intention of the House in 1967 to legalize abortion on demand but in practice that is what has happened."

The House had demonstrated by a substantial majority in the last ecosion that it had the will to

ABORTION

Minister reaffirms promise

on embryo research Bill

act to carb late abortions, many of which must be in contraven-tion of the Infant Life Preserva-tion Act. Meanwhile abortions continued at the rate of son 170,000 a year.

There would always be persunsive arguments that bene-ficial results arose from research on human embryos, but the issue was whether the ends justified the means. He did not think that

It was totally ausatisfactor that such experiments should be conducted outside the law, and outside the law because the House had failed to provide a erislative framework.

Mr David Atton (Liverpool, Mesaley Hill, Den), whose Bill to reform the Abortion Act failed in the less session, said: We should search our hearts about the double standards we apply. The slogan makers demand the right of choice. But can it be right to take someone else's life on the specious argument of choice? It is inconsistent to demand animal rights, welfare

He said that 60 per cent of all shortions were carried out by 11 decises who had earned £2 million for their efforts. In the abortion business £4.5 million had changed hands in the first time mouths of this year alone.

rights and women's rights if we

guere the basic right to life.

Mr Andrew MacKay (East Berkshire, C) said that it was a disgrace that there were so many late abortions. The reason was that it was so difficult even for innocent girls to obtain abor-tions earlier. If there were abortion on request for abortion before 12 weeks, as in conti-nental countries, late abortions would be reduced.

Wemen should have a choice in making this horrendous, emo-tional decision, but that choice was not made easier by interfer-ence by ideologists, most of whom were genetically capable of kaving a baby. If legislation were passed to restrict abortion further, it would mean that affluent middle

"It would be the worst piece of class legislation imaginable because the people who would be most hard hit would be the

innocent, inarticulate, relatively medicated, and often poten-tially single parents with sobody to turn to or to look after them. Mrs Maria Fyfe (Glasgow, Maryhill, Lab) said that by going down the road of ontlaw-ing abortion, MPs would drive women to the back streets, to the

knitting needle, the syringe and the knife. Miss Ann Widdecombt (Maidstone, C) said that she intended to introduce a private Member's Bill, taking up Mr Alton's Abortion (Amendment) Bill at the point where it had been abandoned.

dallenge!

Convoys carrying nuclear fuel considering moving pluto McNab, the Conservative remains roads could be mum powder from Prestwick gional councillor for the North determined terrorists, a senior industry spokesman said yes- at Sellafield is commissioned

Mr William McLaughlan, director of the transports division of British Nuclear Fuels, admitted that dedicated terror groups might pick on vehicles carrying nuclear material in an attempt to steal the contents and create widespread public panic.

"Any thinking person can see that these lorries could present an obvious target for terrorist attacks", he said in

"It is our job, with the advice of security experts, to ensure that the vehicles are not vulnerable if anybody attempts to attack them."

Asked if BNFL could be absolutely certain that terrorists could not satisfactorily attack a nuclear convoy, Mr McLaughlan replied: "No-McLaughlan replied: "No-body can be 100 per cent sure. The only thing you can be life is that you are going to

For all practical reasons, however, a successful breach of security was inconceivable, he added.

Mr McLaughlan was speaking after addressing a meeting of Strathchyde regional coun-cillors about the possibility of nuclear shipments by air from Prestwick airport. BNFL is terday argued that Manchester not want armed guards airport, with its motorway accompanying these vehicles through small villages and on better choice. Mr Rod a bad road system." of Strathclyde regional coun-

from the mid-1990s after the Thorp fuel reprocessing plant in 1992. The flights would coostitute part of a contract to supply reprocessed nuclear fuel to Japanese power sta-

During an occasionally iilexecutive admitted that the choice." criteria for shipping nuclear material back to Japan were exclusively commercial. The deal for supplying Japanese electricity utilities with fuel is worth £2.5 billion to the Brit-

ish ecocomy. One option is to fly pluto-nium out from Prestwick to Japan, while another is to return completed fuel assemblies by sea through an existing terminal at Barrow in Furness, Cumbria.

BNFL says that, if fuel does have to be delivered by air, Prestwick is the preferred option because it is the nearest airport to Sellafield with a Japanese want the fuel in runway long ennugh to accom-modate Boeing 747 cargo jets.

However, Strathclyde connciliors are concerned about the movement of the fuel by road convoys, protected by armed guards, along the relatively narrow highways of southern

Kyle ward, which includes Prestwick airport, said: "I can see an argument that there is a benefit io the whole package but not to Strathclyde.

and the second s

"My constituency will end up with the dirty end of the stick. I cannot see why we should. In practical terms, tempered meeting, the BNFL Manchester is the obvious

> Mr McLaughlan said that plans for the flights had not even developed to the stage where any airport had even been formally approached. If fuel had to be shipped out by aircraft, it would only involve 15 flights per year and would not affect airport operations.

Flying the plutonium power out to Japan from Prestwick is only one option under consideration. International agreements involving Japan and the United States require plutonium pellets to be flown out if a suitable container can be developed but, should the completed form, it can be shipped by sea.

Mr John Baillie, Strathclyde Regional Council member for Prestwick, said he was still not convinced of the integrity of available nuclear containers. "I am convinced that the Scotland. Many members yes-public in southern Scotland do terday argued that Manchester not want armed guards

dogs but there are currently more than "We are victims of our own pub-

by members of the public.

By Robin Young

For the first time in its 128-year

history, the Battersea Dogs Home is encouraging people to buy dogs for Christmas this year. In previous years

the home has always argued that dogs are had, and often unwanted, Christ-

This year the home is turning away "gifts to the home" - the emphemistic

name given to stray animals brought in

The sad truth is that the dogs' home

is overrun with dogs. There is kennel accommodation at Battersea for 463

Dog No 9654, otherwise known as Ginger, on his way with 16 other dogs from Battersea Dogs Home yesterday to a temporary home at Brighton. licity", Mr Stephen Danos, the home's spokesman, said yesterday. "We have always told people that just before Christmas is emotionally a bad time to buy a dog. Now we are lucky if we sell 20 in a day, but in a fortnight we received 938. We had to take emergency measures or conditions would have become totally unmanageable." Yesterday a party of dogs left Battersea to go into overflow accom-modation offered by the National Canine Defeace League in Brighton.

> some of its dogs with other charities and kennel owners. Battersea is contractually obliged to

> The Battersea home is hoping to negotiate similar arrangements for

offer shelter to stray dogs taken into custody by the police. The number brought to the home from that source doubled during last week to 70 a day.

In addition to turning away unwanted "gifts" from the public, the bome is no longer taking in dogs belonging to people who are on remand, in prison, or staying in

A DOG IS FOR LIFE

NOT JUST FOR CHRISTMAS

TISSUED BY THE NATIONAL CANINEDEFENCE LEAGUE

I PRATT MEWS LONDON NWI OAD

hospital. The administrators of the home are also being forced to consider whether there is any point in taking in sick dogs and giving them intensive veterinary care if all that achieves is to add to the already acute problems of overcrowding in the Battersea

Printer seeks redress against union

Colonel Tony Hare, director-general of the dogs home, has anno that the charity is to promote the sale of dogs from its country kennels at Bellmead, Priest Hill, near Old Windsor.

"It is", he said, "a more tranquil environment in which to choose and buy a dog than we can provide at

And finally the dogs home in Battersea will, in spite of all its previous warnings against pre-Christmas purchases, be open from 12pm-4pm this Sunday in the hope that responsible owners will come forward to adopt a few more of its huge intake

P&O accept seamen's damages claim

Seamen yesterday woo a £1 million High Court compensation victory against the P&O shipping group.

Ten seamen representing about 1,800 members of the National Union of Seamen (NUS), including 38 who died in the Herald of Free Enterprise sinking last year, were jubilant when the two-weekold case came to a sudden end.

A 1997

USSON

P&O Ferries, which had fought the claim for compensation after the men said they were "locked out" in an industrial dispute three years ago, agreed to submit to judgement.

The decision was announced to Mr Justice Otton by Mr Christopher Clarke, OC, counsel for P&O, on the tenth day of the action. Damages, including those for

the relatives of the dead seamen, will now be assessed by lawyers and terms agreed. The final figure is expected to reach £1 million.

The lockout at Dover came after a dispute and 72-hour strike io December 1985 over terms and conditions. NUS members have been told that more than half the union's officers will

have to be dismissed if they decide io a

ballot to remain independent (Tim Jooes The Unity Trust Bank reported that the union is facing "extremely serious" financial difficulties and their accounts will be more than £217,000 overdrawn unless tough cost-cutting measures are

In the ballot, which begins oext month, the 20,000 members will decide whether to remain independent or to merge with either the National Union of Railwaymen or the Transport and General Workers' union.

Mr Sam McCluskie, NUS leader, has told his executive committee that if the union decides to stand alone up to 20 officials out of 34 will have be to made redundant.

The point was underlined in the Unity report which described staff costs, which are running at 41.5 per cent of the total expenditure, as "very high".

During a dispute with P&O at Dove the union was fined more than £300,000 and had its assets sequestrated.

accepted redundancy terms was a "very reluctant striker" from News International dur- although he attended picket ing the Wapping dispute, took duties over the next eight the first step yesterday in months and was even arrested seeking compensation in a test and charged with obstructing case before an industrial tri- the police. hunal in London. He also wrote a letter to The

Mr John Bone, aged 45, was Guardian in which he earning £20,000 a year as a criticized the stance of News photo-composer with Times International in the dispute. Newspapers wheo the unioo However, he received only

A former printer who was Gray's Inn Road to Wapping, and finally moved into a after accepting redundancy. expelled from the National Mr Bone, an NGA member bedsit. The panel was told that the expelled from the National Mr Bone, an NGA member bedsit. Graphical Association after be since 1962, told the hearing he Mr Bone decided to accept redundancy terms of £2,000

and told the union. He was reprimanded and fined £100 in April 1987. He told the hearing be stopped paying his subscriptions because he believed it to be a valueless

He told the tribunal that when he called the unioo's call office - a brokerage unit for took strike action in January £90 a week strike pay and he print jobs - he was told that 1986 over the move from was forced to sell his house no work was available for him

union expelled Mr Booe earlier this year.

His income has been only

£2,700 as a director of the Hyde Park Times, although be has had other part-time work. Mr Richard Calland, for Mr Bone, said that if the expulsioo was found to be illfounded, he might apply for possible compensation before another industrial tribunal.

The hearing continues on

Europe 'challenge | Clash over sale of

Suppliers to the fast-growing board's head of product fish farm industry in the marketing, said. . Highlands and Islands could Mr Alexander lose to foreign competition local companies ought to be unless they adopt aggressive able to make the fish farming

marketing tactics. Scottish companies, in the plies and increase exports. business of supplying a wide range of goods from boats to help 12 companies to take part buoys, have been warned that in the Scottish Fish Farming the advent of 1992 and the Conference and Exhibition in Single European Market Edinburgh, where they hope means it is all the more to persuade the industry to important to compete with buy Scottish.

The fish farming industry, about 1,500 jobs in Scotland suppliers from abroad. which is growing rapidly, is expected to produce about by a successful supply industry.

55,000 tonnes of salmon a year by 1993. New markets,

Aggressive marketing was year by 1993. New markets, such as in France and West needed, Mr Alexander said.

Germany, are opening up.

However, the Highlands and Islands Development Board, a supporter of the industry brease of its arms. industry because of its eco- ensure that the revenue and nomic value, estimates that jobs which arise are retained.

About £20 million a year is corner, it is more important spent by fish farms on day-to- than ever that we maintain a day supplies hut foreign com-panies have managed to net almost half of the business, kets and go out and sell to the Mr Alastair Alexander, the rest of Europe."

A village in Gloncestershire has proposed a vote of no confidence in its

diocesan financial board in a dispute over

In a controversy worthy of a Trollope

novel the churchwardens of Arlingham

say that they cannot meet the diocese's

request for more money. They have suggested dispensing with one of their two bishops to make savings.

The diocese of Gloucester has pro-

posed a general increase of 27 per cent in

the annual quotes paid by each of its 320 parishes. The quotas, which are paid reluntarily through collection plates on

Sundays, are spent on the clergy's salaries, housing and central administra-

contributions to church funds.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, is to be asked to rule on a Mr Alexander said that £10 millioo development which would strip Toobridge School of what many regard as industry self-sufficient in supthe finest public school rugby pitch in Britain.

Known as "The Fifty", the school's First XV rugby pitch has achieved legendary status and resistance to its loss is expected from maoy distinguished old boys of the school. who include Sir Patriek Mayhew, the Attorney Gen-

and many more will be created The governors want to sell a 19-acre site, including the treescreened pitch, for development as a housing estate. Part of the £10 million raised by the sale to Bryant Homes would be used to move the turf from "The Fifty" to a new

pitch nearer the school. Tonbridge and Malling Dis-Scottish supply companies are losing to foreign competition. "With 1992 and the Single European Market around the trict Council has refused planning permission for the scheme and the governors will decide next week on the timing of an appeal to the trees have grown there is no minister. One source said reason why the new pitch yesterday: "It is not a question should not be every bit as of if we appeal, but when".

Lose bishop to save church funds, say villagers

tion. Although parishes are not legally bound to pay, the dioceae relies on those regular payments to balance its books.

However, the congregation of 20 villagers from Arlingham has protested at the increase. A meeting of the

parochial church council earlier this

week proposed a vote of no confidence in

the diocesan financial board. It has

written to ask the board to explain the

increase from £1,700 to £2,256 a year.

Mr John Bircher, a churchwarden whose family has served the church in

Arlingham for more than 70 years, criticized the diocese for putting up the quotas. "Our share works out at 32 per

cent, which is five times the rate of

inflation. It makes the diocese seem like

a banana republic. It seems an awful lot

to fish farm trade' school rugby pitch

The development, including 36 sheltered flats for the elderly, 43 detached houses and an Edwardian-style crescent of 13 linked houses, would occupy 14 acres, leaving the rest as open space.

Mrs Wendy Burden, the governors' planning consul-tant, said: "We recognize that this is a conservation area and great trouble has been taken to get the detail of the development right".

Mr Miles Glover, elerk to the governors, said the decision to sell the site, which is half a mile from the main school grounds, had been taken because a planned new relief road would cut it in half.

"Obviously there is a great deal of emotional capital invested in an issue like this", Sir Miles said.

There will be many Tonbridgians who will have fond memories of playing on The Fifty but we have to take the long-term view. When the

own vicer - we have to share him with four other churches. We have lost our Church of England village school and our

The Bishop of Tewkesbury, the Right Rev Jeremy Walsh, admitted yesterday

that the increases were high. An increased number of clergy justified the rise, he said. Nine extra clergy were

The Church Commissioners, who sup-

port perochial clergy through stipends, housing and pensions, said that there had

been complaints for the past 20 years

"Although the quotas are not legally

compulsory, we have never heard of anyone refusing to pay them."

glebe lands."

taken on last year.

that quotas had risen.

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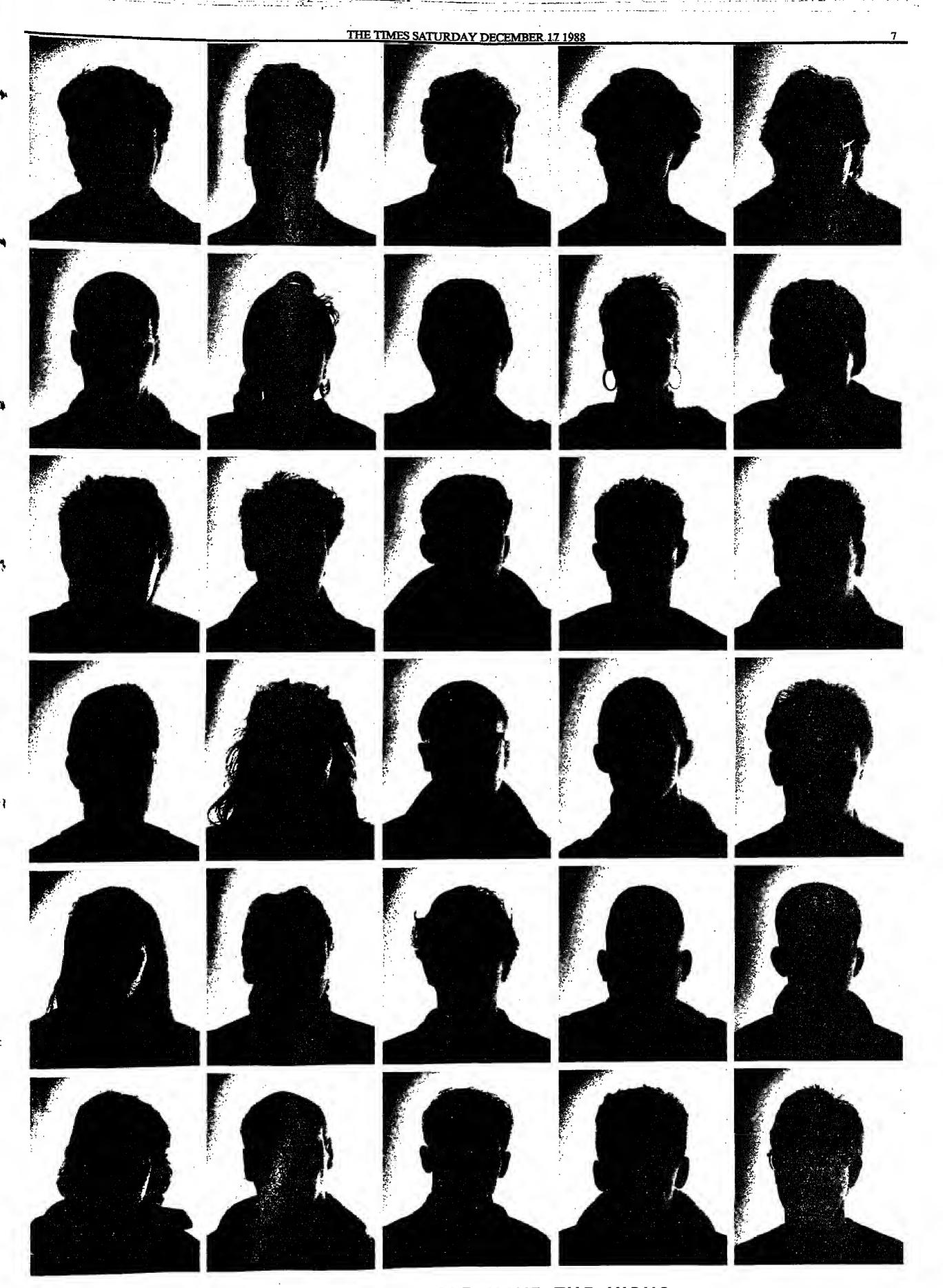
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FOR THIS MANY PEOPLE WITH AIDS.



THIS MANY PEOPLE HAVE THE VIRUS.

The virus which leads to AIDS is known as the Human Immunodeficiency Virus.

Or HIV.

Someone may have HIV for years before they, or anyone else, realise it.

During this time they can look and feel perfectly healthy. But, through sexual intercourse, they could pass on the virus to other people. (Who, in turn, can infect more people.)

It is estimated that for every person with AIDS there are thirty with HIV.

Obviously the more sexual partners you have the more chance you have of becoming infected.

.

But the answer doesn't just mean fewer partners.

It also means using a condom, or even having sex that avoids penetration.

The number of people with HIV is increasing. But your chance of getting it doesn't have to be.



From Michael Dynes Brussels

Distribution of the portfolios for the next four-year term of the European Commission have fi-nally been agreed, M Jacques Delors, the Commission's President, announced yesterday.

At the first working session of the new 17-member Commission in the 13th-century headquarters of the ancient order of Knights Templar, the Commissioners have already begun work drawing up strategic guidelines for the Community's programme in the New Year.

There were only a few surprises in the allocation of portfolios, achieved without the traditional blood-letting which has marred the inauguration of many previous Commissions

former West German Economics Minister, inherits the mantle of Lord Cockfield in becoming Commissioner for the Internal Market, widely regarded as the

most important post.

But the position has been divested of the highly controversial Commission proposals for fiscal approximation, which entails the abolition of Britain's cherished zero rate of value added tax, as well as the increasingly important financial services brief. Mr Leon Brittan, who replaces Lord Cockfield as Britain's senior Commissioner, has been given eharge of competition policy, relations with the European Parliament, and liberalization of

financial services. Competition policy is widely expected to prove extremely delicate, since the Commission is to vet, in advance, all large-scale cross-frontier mergers - an aspiration with which Britain has very little sympathy.

Mr Bruce Millan, the junior Labour Commissioner and former Labour Scottish Secretary, has been put in charge of the Community's greatly expanded regional development fund. Mr Millan will be responsible

for overseeing the distribution of development money, projected to increase to some £9 billion by 1992, much of which will go to the poorer member states in an attempt to avoid a north-south split within the EEC.

Mr Frans Andriessen, the former Budget Commissioner, has been given the External Relations Portfolio, where he will be responsible for negotiations with the Community's trading partners, such as those being conducted in the current round of multi-lateral trade talks under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Herr Peter Schmidhuber, the iunior West German Commissioner, has been put in charge of the Community's budget, and Mr Raymond MacSharry, the new Irish Commissioner, will take responsibility for the Common Agricultural Policy.

A welcome development for Britain is the allocation of responsibility for fiscal affairs and the customs union to Mme Christiane Scrivener, the junior French Commissioner, and veteran Euro MP who has worked on the European Parliament's budget committee. She has indicated that she is sympathetic to the problems faced by Britain over the proposed abolition of zero rating.

and research and technology would be elevated and given portfolios in their own right have proved unfounded, and many environmentalists will be disappointed that the increasingly high-profile environment job has been given to Signor Carlo Ripa de Meana, the Italian former Commissioner for Culture, who is considered by many observers to

be something of a Brussels

The Commissioners, who are expected to take up their £80,000 to£100,000-a-year positions on the 13th floor of the Berlaymont, the Community's star-shaped plate-glass headquarters in Brussels, on January 6, are: 1. Jacques Delors, France, Com-

mission President. 2. Mme Christiane Scrivener France, Fiscal Affairs and the Policy, Relations with the European Parliament and Financial Services.

4. Bruce Millan, UK, Regional Development Funds. 5. Martin Bangemann, West Ger-

many, Internal Market. 6. Peter Schmidhuber, West Germany, Budget.

7. Philipp Maria Pandolfi, Italy, Science Research and Development and Telecommunica-

tions. 8. Carlo Ripa de Meana, Italy, Environment

9. Abel Matutes, Spain, Mediterranean Policy, Relations with Latin America and north-south issues. 10. Manuel Marin, Spain, Cooperation and Development (Lome) and Fish.

11. Antonio Cardoso, Portugal

Personnel and Administration, Energy and Small and Medium Enterprises.

12. Mrs Vasso Papandreon. Greece, Employment, Industrial and Social Affairs, and Education. 13. Karel Van Miert, Belgium, Transport, Credit and Investment, and Environmental Protection.

14. Henning Christopherson. Denmark, Economic and Financial Affairs and Co-ordination of the Structural Funds.

15. Frans Andriessen, The Netherlands, External Relations. 16. Raymond MacSharry, Ireland. Agriculture.

17. Jean Dodelinger, Luxembourg, Audio-Visual and Cultural Affairs, Information and Communications and Citizens Ешгоре.

Leading article, page 11

PLO is in from the cold as talks with US begin

From Christopher Walker, Tunis

The Palestine Liberation Or- sources have made clear they rael, was the American view of violent clash with Israeli solganization completed its recent transformation from reviled terrorist group to respectable partner in the peace process yesterday when a delegation of its senior officials met US government representatives for the first time in public since 1975.

The historic encounter, which many on the Arab side see as offering new hope for the eventual resolution of the 40-year-old Palestinian problem, appropriately took place in the residential suburb of Carthage which, in its days of proceed "at a deliberate pace", ancient splendour, was the scene of much blood-letting.

The two delegations met in the sumptuous surroundings of a Tunisian government villa. None of the best known of the PLO has led to confu-

Despite the media razzmatazzwhich accompanied the elsewhere, and no one has re-establishing of links severed on the instructions of Dr Henry Kissinger when he was Secretary of State, senior US officials were at pains to stress that the new dialogue is Mr Pelletreau made clear future violence which is unlikely to move forward that the halting of terrorism present in the Middle East, significantly until after President-elect George Bush takes agenda.

control next month. that talks will concentrate on to be permanent and pervaways of facilitating direct con- sive," he told reporters. tacts between the PLO and the Israelis, as well as between the opening session of the new Israelis and their other Arab dialogue, so deeply distrusted

expect the dislogue to lead to the convening of the long-awaited international Middle East peace conference before

the end of 1989. At a briefing for US reporters. Mr Robert Pelletreau, the American Ambassador who led the small US diplomatic team, stressed that Mr Bush was instrumental in the internal politicking which led to this week's about-face by the Reagan Administration.

Mr Pelletreau said the new Middle East forum should meaning that it should meet at regular, specified intervals.

The speed with which the Reagan Administration abandoned its previous shunning PLO leaders took part because sion among US officials about they had not yet arrived back how exactly the new talks from the UN session in should progress. should progress.

They are not seen to have any exact diplomatic parallel been able to define what kind "red line" any renewed Palestinian terrorism would have to cross before they are

was at the top of yesterday's "I now expect the renunci-

The US side then expects ation of terrorism by the PLO • JERUSALEM: After a day Also on the agenda at the

the Middle East peace process and a discussion of the modalities of how the new PLO-US dialogue will work in practice.

In a front-page report on the resumption of the contacts, Le Renouveau, the newspaper of Tunisia's ruling party, said that, to make Thursday's opening contact with a senior PLO man in Tunis, Mr Pelletreau had been forced to get his telephone number from his British counterpart, Mr

Stephen Day.

British diplomats throughout the Middle East have made no secret of their belief that pressure from London was instrumental in persuading the US to change its

proach to the PLO. Although the US envoy denied yesterday that Tunis had suddenly emerged as a central point in the peace process, his denial was treated as hollow by Arab diplomats. There is no cause for any

wild optimism now that the two sides are talking in Ernest," said one Western observer, "But when you deal daily with the potential for any new avenue for increasing understanding and for active diplomacy is very welcome." of joy celebrating the promise of talks between the PLO and the US Palestinians in the West Bank were in mourning

diers during a funeral in Nablus (Ian Murray writes).

Meanwhile, in Petah Tikvah, near Tel Aviv, the funeral went ahead of Mr Arturo Herstog, a reserve Israeli soldier aged 40, who was shot by an Arab on Tuesday.

The funeral showed that whatever diplomatic moves are going on, the basic conflict between Jews and Arabs remained as murderous as ever.

The trouble in Nablus started at the funeral of Ashraf Haj Daoud, aged 15, who died early vesterday morning, from gunshot wounds he received during a clash with soldiers three weeks ago.

The angry procession escorting his body began hurling abuse at troops patrolling the streets of the city and the violence inevitably began. The soldiers open fired with their new, hard, plastic bullets which, unlike live amunition, do not have to be fired at the

Two of the demonstrators

fell dead - Yassin Shakhshir, aged 18, who was hit in the neck, and Fayez Shako, aged 20, who was hit in the heart, Later, Iyad Abultilal, aged 20, died in hospital from wounds in the mouth and chest.

The Army confirmed that nine others were wounded, including the brother of the dead boy aged 15. Three were m very serious condition and Palestinian reports said that 30 others had been wounded neighbours. Senior Moscow by hardline politicians in Is- people killed in a particularly but had not gone to hospital.

Anniversary shows Afrikaner split



Supporters of the Afrikaner Resistance Movement, with their swastika-like flag, celebrating

From Gavin Bell Pretoria

Deep divisions in Afrikaner society over moves to dismentle apartheid were thrown into sharp focus yesterday by a government appeal for racial coexistence, and right-wing claims to a "God-given" right to white supremacy.

The conflicting sentiments were the main themes of speeches on the 150th anniversary of the Great Trek, the most holy day in the Afrikaner celender.

President Botha, addressing an official ceremony, called for national unity to resist foreign interference and condemnation. South Africa was searching for ways to achieve "orderly coexistence and good neighbourtiness, which will eliminate domination among the peoples, who in then diversity share this country."

The President's speech was politely applauded by more than 5,000 Afrikaners at a monument near Pretoria. But a larger crowd had assembled at a farm about 20 miles away to hear Dr Andries Treumicht, leader of the far right Conservative Party, reassure diebard Afrikaners that racial segregation was enshrined in the Bible.

Dr Treurnicht, whose party has the support of more than half of white Afrikaners. added: "We won't be sacrificed on the altar by big international powers. We are a nation with a God-given land."

Lood cheers greeted the equally forceful speech of Mr Engene Terre Blanche, leader of the Afrikaaner Resistance cannot afford to let what is his

WORLD ROUNDUP

Karachi curfew as riots spread

districts of Karachi after six people were shot dead and 11 seriously injured by masked gunmen in Landi Kotal colony in central Karachi (Zahid Hussain writes). The shooting led to widespread rioting in several districts.

According to an official statement, the unidentified gunnen in a car fired indiscriminately at people sitting in a roadside cafe. Troops moved immediately to the affected areas.

It was the first riot in the city since Miss Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party came to power. Miss Bhutto, the Prime Minister, ordered the Sind Government to take stern

action against the killers. She said a democratic government could not be daunted by "such cowardly acts of violence". Mr Altaf Hussain, head of the Mohajir Qoumi Movement, which forms a coalition government with the People's Party in Sind province, said the gunmen's aim was to destabilize the democratically elected Government.

Vanuatu in crisis

Port Vila (Renter) - The South Pacific island chain of Vanuatu plunged into crisis yesterday after Father Walter Lini, the Prime Minister, ignored an order from President Sokomanu to dissolve Parliament and hold elections. "The President has no legal power to dissolve Parliament. He can take such action only if the Council of Ministers advises him to do so." Father Lini told Parliament

• Tourist shot: An Australian teenage tourist was shot by a soldier on Thursday night and is recovering in hospital.

Palme case remand

Stockholm - In a heavily guarded Stockholm courtroom Carl Gustaf Christer Pettersson, aged 41 and unemployed was yesterday remanded in custody until December 31 charged with the murder nearly three years ago of the Swedish Prime Minister, Olof Palme (Christopher Mosey writes). He pleaded not guilty. The chief public prosecutor, Mr Anders Helin, asked for the remand on the grounds that if freed, Pettersson could leave the country or destroy evidence connected with the investigation

Dingo case claim

Sydney - Lindy Chamberlain, the mother sentenced to life imprisonment in the dingo baby case, yesterday filed a claim for \$A4 million (£1.8 million) compensation from the Northern Taxistan (Sayarana for present) compensation Northern Territory Government for wrongful conviction and suffering (Christopher Morris writes). She and her husband Michael were exonerated of

involvement in baby Azaria's death by a Royal Commission, and in September their convictions were struck from the record after an eight-year legal battle. The claim will be considered by the Northern Territory Cabinet, which can approve an ex gratia payment.

Reagan looks back

Washington - President Reagan in a farewell speech summing up his foreign policy achievements yesterday spoke of progress in Soviet-US relations hut urged caution (Mohsin Ali writes).

In an address to the University of Virginia, the President recalled that he had suggested in 1982 that if the West maintained its strength "we would see economic needs clash with the political order in the Soviet Union" and that this had happened. But he warned it could not have happened if the West had not maintained its commitment to freedom.

Abortions top births

again yesterday for three more

From Mary Dejevsky

The abortion rate in the Soviet Union is higher than in any other developed country. There are nearly 20 per cent more abortions every year than there are live births - 6,800,000 against 5,600,000.

the age of 17 have an abortion. of abortions - many of them

These statistics are not the product of any Western organization that might have an interest in blackening the Knlakov.

He gave the main reason for the high figures as the diffi-culty of obtaining contra-ceptives and the lack of any

in Russia

cue workers have begun lition teams.

akan, said that all foreign workers have been asked to leave here by the weekend, so that bulldozers can begin

reputation of Soviet society or the Soviet health service. They were published yesterday in Pravda, in an interview given by the director of the Soviet Union's national research centre for mother and child health, Professor Vladimir

Armenia relief gives way to demolition

Each year 25,000 girls under Across the country, there are 600 deaths annually as a result

Fatigued and increasingly jewellery and watches from hospital said that many survidespairing of finding survicorpses, and others found vors are severely traumatized, called off. She said the irreparable buildings,
vors, hundreds of foreign resplundering emergency in one of the hospital's partly
authorities have still not deAlthough the Social plundering emergency

withdrawing from north-west Armenia's earthquake zone to make way for Soviet demo-M Pierre Schaeffer, head of a 498-member French rescue contingent based in Lenin-

levelling the surrealistic horror that was once Armenia's second biggest city. M Schaeffer added that his rescue team believed the earthquake death toll was probably three times the 55,000 estimated by Soviet

officials. Although trucks with loud-speakers have been imploring residents to leave, hordes of sooty, listless survivors remain in central Leninakan. engaged in a hellish scavenger hunt for relatives, belongings, mementoes, or booty.

Soviet newspapers said 150 people had been arrested for looting, including one man in Kirovakan caught stealing

supplies. Those who remain, huddled in the dangerously unstable ruins or sleeping around campfires in the rubble, are expected to be forcibly evac-

nated m a matter of days.

Rumours worry Kremlin When those attempts failed, it lem, From Mary Dejevsky

As the search for survivors from last week's earthquake in Armenia is scaled down, official statements suggest that Armenian nationalist sentiment is becoming a source of acute friction between Soviet rescue teams and local people. Pravda yesterday accused the Karabakh Committee, which was set up last year to agitate for the transfer to Armenia of Nagomo-Kara-

said, they changed their tac- Karabakh Committee had betics and started spreading false ramours to impede the rescue work. They predicted that another

earthquake was imminent, and then spread reports that Leninakan had been destroyed by an atomic bomb. Then, Pravda said, they staged last weekend's demonstrations in bakh, of trying to mount an alternative relief operation in competition with the Polithuro commission on the disaster. troops: "We will force you to bakh Commit fire on us."

In a comment which becaused: "Is it trayed the depth of the prob-with them?"

evacuated wards, a 46-year-old man who had lost his entire family took a knife and 290,000 people once hved. stabbed himself to death.

Miss Karen Vanyan, an

But the French rescue leader said he was told demolition is

Armenian official belping to to begin on Monday, with all

plan the city's future, said it residents cleared from the city, Doctors at a Leninakan would be "three days' maxi- except for men who will take

> come virtually synonymous with patriotism." The committee, it went on, was in collusion with the "godfathers of the Armenian Mafia", who were creaming off profits from the relief operation for

Such people, Pravda said, were completely immunus from the local police and judiciary. Even some party workers supported the Karabakh Committee With an arrival supported the supported Yerevan where one of the Karabakh Committee members had challenged the troops: "We will force you to nous rhetorical flourish, it in a comment which be- asked: "Is it not time to deal

Although the Soviet press has sharply criticized Soviet inefficiencies, foreign rescuers said that the overall disorganization was no worse than normally expected in large-scale disasters.

"I think they've done as much as they can do under the circumstances," Mr Bruce Barton, a rescue coordinator from the US State Department's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, said. "The co-operation has been terrific, not what I expected. You come here with the traditional American stereotypes, but the military and everyone else has been ex-

tremely co-operative." (New York Times)
SPITAK: Relief workers distributed food and warm clothing to survivors here yesterday while Soviet officials, fearing an outbreak of infectious diseases, proceeded with evacuation plans (AP reports). Mr Nouradian Norig Kritkorianizh, the First Secretary of Spitak's Communist Party, said work on razing the city would begin tomorrow.

High cost of politics in Japan

MP spotlights the lure of shady stock transactions

From Joe Joseph

Mr Michio Watanabe, a power among Japan's ruling Liberal Democrats and, some say, a Prime Minister in waiting, has drawn the frankest picture yet by a Member of Parliament of how the cost of politics in Japan might tempt MPs into the sort of dubious share deals that last week cost Japan's Finance

Japanese constituents expect to be coddled. Those who do not, do not vote, says Mr Watanabe. Like everything else in Japan, this costs plenty of money.

Minister his job.

"Since stock prices have been on the rise almost constantly over the past few years," he told reporters yesterday at the Foreign Correspondents' Club in Tokyo, "I am sure there are some among them (politicians) who have engaged in financial engineering."

In the middle of Japan's worst postwar stock market scandal which elsewhere might have brought

has thrown a rare beam of light on the blurred division between politics and business here.

Japan's political terms of trade were less interesting, and less important, to the rest of the world when Japan was not being pressed to add its voice to international decision-making. Japan is now realizing that its views will be weighed more warily if foreigners fear that its politicians can be bought. It does not help that nine of Japan's postwar Prime Ministers have at some time been officially investigated for alleged corruption.

Mr Watanabe heads the LDP's influential policy research council. He is known for being blunt in a country that prefers its politicians to lie gracefully. Often his bluntness gets him in to trouble. His aide bought unlisted shares in

Recruit Cosmos, the property com-

pany at the heart of Japan's current

stock scandal. Recruit allegedly tried

to curry favour by handing out

shares at bargain prices to senior

Mr Watanabe's aide, along with those of several present and former Cabinet ministers, made a killing when Recruit's shares were floated on the stock market. Most MPs have hidden behind this fig leaf, even though it is common knowledge that aides do these things on their boss's behalf. The lure is great: stock market gains are free of tax in Japan and share deals can be executed in someone else's name.

Mr Kiichi Miyazawa had to quit as Finance Minister and Deputy Prime Minister a week ago when he could not explain why his name, not his aide's, appeared on the stock papers. Mr Watanabe said yesterday that he had no plans to follow Mr Miyazawa. Nor did he excuse himself. He put the blame instead on how Japanese people expect their politicians to indulge them. Such treatment has remained expensive even though tighter rules on political donations introduced after the 1976 Lockheed bribes scandal

down a government - Mr Watanabe MPs, civil servants and which cost the then Prime Minister time. There are also donations that his job — made money harder to find.

Booming share prices in the world's biggest and healthiest stock market are an easy answer.

While MPs get state support for two aides, MPs often employ 10 or 15. Many have as many as 20. earning average salaries of £23,000 a year. The £3,500 a year provided by the state for transport and communication costs, said Mr Watanabe, is laughable.

Attending a constituent's funeral might cost £200, taking into account the cash gift and flowers expected from those who come to pay respects, "and there seems to be a funeral every day", be said. Weddings cost as much and are more frequent. In short, an MP's after-tax salary and expense allowances total about £50,000; his outgoings, at least 10 times as much.

"You may ask why one has to attend all these funerals and weddings. I can assure you that if you don't you will not get re-elected next

have to be given to temples, to shrines, to festivals we have here in Japan. There are donations that have to be given to all kinds of things in Japan," said Mr Watanabe.

"So it is difficult to say which is the chicken and which is the egg. whether the politicians are to hlame for spending all the money, or the constituents who make it necessary for them to spend all this money.

"Since the Lockheed scandal there has been a ceiling of 1.5 million yen (£6,800) on political contributions hy any one person or organization. So what you do, if you are an MP, is you find a loophole or a way round the restrictions by creating more and more organizations around you that can

accept funds." Mr Watanabe's sketch was delivered within hours of a report showing that 12 of the 20 members of Japan's Cabinet hold unlisted

Mr Noboru Takeshita, the Prime Minister, led the ranks, with a stake m nine unlisted companies.

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Jayewardene talks to The Times

· Sri Lanka 'is facing its worst crisis since independence'

From Edward Gorman, Colombo

In the tranquillity of his (Mr Wijeweera) hasn't got the presidential candidate, Mr private study, surrounded by which record 11 increasingly turbulent years in power, President Jayewardene admitted that he is about to leave office amid the worst crisis Sri

"Of course I am disappointed," he said "I wouldn't be human if I wasn't." The embanded President, aged 83, was speaking to The Times in his last interview before handing over to his successor on Monday after the bloodiest presidential campaign in the country's

As he spoke that campaign was reaching its climax with the main presidential hop-efuls, Mr Ranasinghe Premadasa, the Prime Minister, and Mrs Sirima Bandaranaike, the opposition leader, addressing their last rallies on the final day of campaigning.

The assassinations, too. were continuing with the toll in various incidents on the island standing at 18 by midafternoon. The underground Sinhalese extremist People's Liberation Front (JVP), which has hrought President Jayewardene's Government to its knees over the past two months, was also making its final preparations for the elections. Leaflets were being distributed declaring that the island would be under "curfew" on Monday and those who violated the curfew would face execution.

President Jayewardene made it clear that his failure to combat the JVP insurgency could not be sustained by his successor. "Whoever is President must tackle completely this question of violence. Nothing can be done until then. All efforts, all resources should be directed to that

end," he said. He gave a warning that the country would face a dictatorship in what he considered to be the highly unlikely event of the JVP coming to power in Colombo. Comparing the underground movement's leader, Mr Rohana Wijeweera, to Pol Pot, the former Cambbodian leader, he said: "He Alliance (a faction led by a can, all well and good."

but not to run a government. I am sure he will not succeed.

In a remarkably frank ex-change, the President admitted that his Government, Lanka bas faced since which has ruled through emergency law for five and a half years, had presided over what know. It may not be a conneche described as a "very regret- tion but there may be memtable" assault on buman bers who are supporting the rights, first in its battle against Government who are in these the Tamil insurgency in the groups."

> Colombo -- Twenty-one people were injured last night when at least two bombs were thrown at a final presidential election rally of 3,000 people held by Mrs Sirima Bandaranaike, the main opposition candidate (Edward Gorman writes). Police said two other bombs were found at the rally, at Ratmalana, south of Colo

In another incident, also south of the capital, an armed clash between ruling United clash between ruling United clash between ruling United clections will be held."

The President said he had members of Mrs Bandaran naike's Sri Lankan Freedom the JVP and traced the beginning of the JVP and traced the begin police reported.

north and east and, more recently, against the JVP.

He said although the armed forces were under "perfect control", they had been "allowed to do various things which are against human rights. This is very regrettable but it cannot be helped," he

"Either we have to give in, hold up our arms and say: "Come and run the country" or we have to run it."

The Sri Lankan President did not rule out Government connections with paramilitary groups like the Peoples Revolutionary Red Army which has been carrying out scores of brutal revenge killings against suspected JVP activists in the south in recent apparent commitment to weeks. sending Indian troops of the

private study, surrounded by talent or the support. He may ossie Abeygoonasekera).

The private study, surrounded by talent or the support. He may have the talent for revolution weapons are available and they are being used for self

> the Peoples Revolutionary Red Army, he said: "There may be something - I don't

The President said, despite rumours of a last-minute postponement, he was confident both that the elections would go ahead on Monday and that his nominee, Mr Premadasa, would win. The elections, however, would not be peaceful. "There will be violence," he said, "There will be intimidation. They (the JVP) are trying to stop it. Democracy will be hindered—it will be in danger—but the

Party left eight people injured, ning of the present crisis to the emergence of the Tamil separatist insurgency in 1983. Violence in the north and east, he said, had given ideas to those in the south who had profited from the availability of weapons and a distracted army and police force.

His hopes that the JVP had entered the political main-stream with Mr Wijeweera's participation in the 1982 presidential elections had begun to fade by 1983. But he said he did not regret his order to ben the movement after blaming them for communal riots in Colombo that year and described as "nonsense" the generally accepted view that those riots had been organized by members of his own United National Party.

Commenting on both the main presidential candidates' "There are several groups, peacekeeping force in the there is killing on all sides," he north and east back home, said. "We have been arming a President Jayewardene said: large number of people for "I am not concerned. They are security purposes to protect to judge for themselves if they Members of Parliament and can give adequate security for

Soul singer's car chase ends in US prison



nes Brown, the American soul singer, smiling as he was taken yesterday from Aiken County Court-house, South Carolina, to jail by a prison official after receiving a six-

Brown, aged 55, whose songs include the classic "I feel good", was sentenced by the South Carolina court for failing to stop for police during a car chase across two states in September (James Bone writes).

The chase ended with police shooting out his tyres. The sentence marks

the low point in Brown's troubled relations with the law over the past IWO YEARS.

He was also sentenced on two counts of aggravated assault for the same incident, receiving the option of six months in jall or a \$6,000 (£3,278) fine and five years' probation.

The chase began in Augusta, Georseminar in the building where he has an office brandishing a pistol and a shotgun. He demanded to know who had been using "his restroom". He ordered two women to lock the toilet door and give him the key. Brown left in a pick-up truck, but

Georgia police gave chase, pursuing him at speeds of up to 85 uph along the highway until he crossed into neighbouring South Carolina. A policeman then shot out his tyres, bet Brown continued driving on his wheel rims for another eight miles,

crossing back into Georgia. Brown had run foul of the law several times in the months leading up to the chase, and just two days after it

the General Labour Union,

and Senor Antonio Gutierrez,

his Workers' Commissions

counterpart, insisted that, be-

fore talks could begin, the Government would have to

youth employment plan,

which in the view of the

unions is anti-social; agree to 2

per cent general wage in-

creases and pension rises to

compensate for the underesti-

mate in the cost of living

increase for this year; offer

increased nnemployment

compensation; make the mini-

mum wage level also the

minimum level for state-paid

pensions, and fully recognize

the bargaining rights of civil

he was arrested again, while on bail, for driving without a licence. Earlier this year, he pleaded guilty to resisting arrest and possession of an illegal firearm after another car chase.

He was also charged with assault with intent to kill after his wife, a former soap opera actress, Adrienne Brown, told police he fired several shots at her car and beat her with a pipe. The charges were dropped after she refused to testify.

Brown also had a string of trafficrelated arrests last year.

Unions march through Madrid Plane crash

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

drid yesterday after effectively rejecting a proposal by Senor Felipe Gonzales, the Prime Minister, for a joint meeting with representatives of the Spanish Confederation of Management Organizations.

In separate letters to Senor Gonzalez, the heads of Spain's two biggest unions, the Socialist-orientated General Labour Union and the Communist- policies. led Workers' Commissions, said they would not attend if the president of the federation was present, and laid down other "unrenounceable prior conditions" for the proposed meeting next Thursday.

They said they did not intend to discuss "the accounts of the realm", that is, which has pitted the General

Trade unions marched against the economy in general, but Labour Union against a Government policies in Ma-would talk about youth pen-socialist Government in the

A scheduled Cabinet meeting presided over by Senor Gonzalez was yesterday assessing the importance of the 24bour general strike which paralyzed the country last Wednesday, reflecting union demands for a swing to the left in economic and employment

The two unions, joined by the anarchist National Labour Confederation, organized yesterday evening's march in Madrid to keep driving home their demands to the Government.

sions, unemployment and first general strike in more civil servants' union rights. on Thursday night, when Se-nor Miguel Boyer, the former socialist Finance Minister who has accepted the presidency of a private bank, was addressing a businessmen. A union militant strode up

to him, shouted "Traitor! You're a traitor to the union, a thief and a pickpocket", then slapped him. After the man was hustled out, Senor Boyer carried on, saying: "A socialist turn in the Government's economic policy, as proposed by the unions, would result in increased inflation, more unemployment and decreased

investment." In their letters to the Prime servants.

kills 10 in outback Minister, Senor Nicolas Redondo, secretary-general of

Sydney - A charter flight taking miners to the gold town of Kalgoorlie in Western Australia ended in disaster yesterday when the plane crashed in the remote outback killing all 10 on board (Chrisagree to withdrawal of its

topher Morris writes). The aircraft, a twin-entined Missubishi MU2, went down after flying into a thunderstorm shortly after take-off from an airstrip at the Beliview gold mine for the 180-mile flight to Kalgoorije.

High growth Lisbon (Renter) - The Portu-guese Parliament gave final approval to the centre-right Government's 1989 budget, which forecasts further high

growth rates for West Eu-

rope's poorest economy. Pay protest

ruling and opposition party assembly leaders agreed to scrap a decision to raise MPs' salary by 85 per cent following an outcry from the press and

Border killing

Peking (Reuter) - China said that two Vietnamese soldiers who intruded on its territory had been shot dead, and accused Vietnam of repeated cross-border attacks in recent

months. Eastern tour

Moscow (AFP) - The Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze sets off tomorow on a major Asian tour taking in Japan, the

Philippines and North Korea. Teacher's find Fort Worth (Reuter) - The

fossilized remains of three dinosaurs which represent a newly-discovered species have been found near Fort Worth by a high school biology teacher and his son, aged

Fatal demand

Colombo (AP) - A widow killed seven of her children and committed suicide in northern Sri Lanka after she was harassed for money by two sons-in-law.

'Golden Bedsheet' fraud spawns more Italian railway scandals

The Italian Government, in a according to one account, Avellino football club at the political and union rules. The well-meaning but plainly doomed attempt to make the trains run on time before 1992, is using an exotically factories they found checklists Communist Party opposition named Golden Bedsheets of railway directors with numits trying its best and the press scandal to purge the railway establishment investigating magistrate.

Four out of 12 directors of the Italian state railways are under arrest, and the search for evidence is snawning yet more scandals, including one concerning the diversion of carthquake relief funds.

The Golden Bedsheets are, in fact, made of paper, Earlier this year a £60 million contract was awarded to a Salerno businessman, Signor Elio of lire in compensation for Graziano, for the supply of largely imaginary damages paper bedsheets to equip Ital- suffered during the earthian sleeping cars. Although expensive, the

idea was to cut down the railway service's huge laundry bill. Some 50,000 brand new pure wool blankets were sold off cheaply in anticipation of ended up in the pockets of the the new space age paper

But rival businessmen deit was never submitted to Avellino within the former to have two drivers in the tender, the sheets were suspiciously over-priced and, Graziano was chairman of divided up according to the nounced the deal to the police:

likely to go up in flames, same time. When the police raided Signor Graziano's flat, office and four

Signor Graziano disapp-America from where he has protested his innocence. In their search, police in-

gested that Signor Graziano had put in claims for millions quake that struck the Naples region in 1980.

The fate of tens of millions of pounds of earthquake relief is an abiding mystery. It is the equation. widely assumed that some Camorra, the Neapolitan mafia. The Italian Prime Min-

Could some mud stick to the Prime Minister? The bottom. Strikes bedevil the Communist Party opposition railways. According to the bers attached to each name - now refers to Signor De Mita's all trains have delays of more pay-offs, according to the Irpiniagate after Irpinia, the investigating magistrate.

Signor Mario Schimberini. eared from the scene in his aged 65, has been put in charge private helicopter and fled to of the railways until a new board of directors can be found. The former bead of the chemicals giant, Montedison, vestigators also found false is being trusted with a thor-financial returns which sug- ough purge of this most

political of public services. The railway reform of 1986 gave the Italian railways some autonomy from the Transport Ministry, But the new independence did not add up to much: the Railway Board was divided up politically. Merit does not seem to have entered

Real control of the railways remained at platform level, the trains controlled in the minutest detail by the trades ister, Signor Chiriaco De nnions with their respective Mita, has his power base in party loyalties. Every train has

result appears to be corruption at the top and chaos at the latest statistics 59 per cent of than five minutes, almost 10 per cent delays of an hour.

The state of the railways was always an index of Italy's modernity. Mussolini claimed his renewal of rolling stock and railway track as a sign of how Fascism was benefitting the people. Today, people prefer to use his autostradas.

Arctic health threat grows Vancouver (Renter) - Canada says it fears airborne pollution

from the industrialized world could be hurting the bealth of 22,000 Eskimos living in the country's remote Arctic

Dr David Kinloch, the chief medical health officer for the Northwest Territories, said contaminants such as polychlorinated bipbenyls and pesticides like DDT have been

El Salvador elections

Death squads on poll trail

tion campaign is turning into violence. The ruling Christian Democrats are hiaming the right-wing Arena party for the murder on Monday night of a young Christian Democrat party worker, Francisco Bonilla, while he was canvassing in a San Salvador suhurb.

Many fear that his killing is just the start of an ugly campaign which has been marked by mutual accusations of fraud and violence. Bonilla was with other Christian Democrat workers in Soyapango when he was killed.

His colleagues said they had been followed and surrounded by eight heavily-armed Arena vigilantes. Among them they recognized the Mayor of Soyapango, Senor Antonio Vasquez Corena, and the head of the municipal police.

"The men started to beat me shouting: 'He's the leader' said Senor Rubino Landaverde, the co-ordinator of the Christian Democrat canvassers. "They tried to force me and two others into their vehicle saying they were going

The intense rivalry in El to take us away." Bonilla was tian Democrats of "politi-Salvador's presidential elec- shot at point-blank range as he came to help his friends.

The Christian Democrats say there have been repeated threats from local Arena officials against their party workers. The killing clearly demonstrates that Arena intends to increase violence? said Dr Fidel Chavez Mena, the Christian Democrat presidential candidate.

They also accused Arena of employing as security guards former members of right-wing death squads which, together with the military, are alleged to have killed tens of thousands of civilians in the early years of the civil war. The accusation was backed up earlier this year by two former Arena guards and death squad members who told their story

In a communique issued after this latest killing Arena party officials said they had ordered an exhaustive investigation into the Soyapango case. But the communique added that they had found nothing to suggest that Mayor Corena was involved. It accused the Chris- parties.

cizing" the case. Arena controls over 200 of

the country's 262 municipalities after a landslide victory in legislative and municipal elections last March. Since then eight mayors, most from Arena have been assassinated by left-wing guerrillas. The rebels have also been carrying out bombings and other attacks in the cities. Many fear the country is

slipping towards the un-controlled bloodshed of the early 1980s, when at least 9,000 people died each year. Every week several mutilated bodies are found dumped around the capital, apparently the victims of right-wing or military death squads. The founder of Arena, Ma-

jor Roberto D'Aubuisson, accused the international press of bias for not covering attacks on Arena officials. He said the mayor's office in Soyapango had been bombed three times and his house had been machine-gunned.

The election campaign has also produced accusations of fraud between the two main

Gulf peace talks postponed Sex change operation raises Egyptian storm

Plight of 'Sally' challenges Islamic theory

From Our Own Correspondent, Cairo

Egypt's doctors are demanding an urgent new law governing sex change operations following the controversy resulting from the country's first such publicized operation in which a male medical student, aged 24, became Miss Saily Muhammad Abdullah.

Sally's plight has become a cause celebre which has exposed a new area of conflict between the teachings of

Islam and modern science. It has also cast a shadow over the 2,500 males and 500 females in Egypt estimated by Dr Ahmed Okasha, a leading psychiatrist, to be in need of such operations for psychological reasons. In an effort to resolve a situation which has caused great uncertainty in a society which has long avoided public discussion of sexual issues, the Doctors' Union has demanded a law which would require all such future operations to be

referred to a special committee. Since Sally became a woman carrier this year, she has faced a series of

problems which left her in despair. Dressed in flowered trousers and a blue sweater, she told reporters: "My life has come to a complete standstill. I bave been deprived of all my rights as a human being. If this goes on, I will have to leave the country." She was expelled from her medical

school run by Al-Azhar, Cairo's Islamic Institute, and later ordered by the Army to perform military service, which is compulsory for men, but not for women. Dr Ezzat Gibraiel, whom she first

consulted seven years ago when she could not cope with her growing female tendencies and who eventually agreed to perform the sex change, was barred from practising by the Doctors' Union, which said he had performed the operation without cause.

"This operation was a flagrant violation of religious values, of traditions accepted by the Egyptian and Islamic society and the profession's medical ethics," the union's deputy chairman, Dr Salem Negm, said.

As the debate gathered momentum, religious scholars argued that medical practices in Egypt should conform with Islamic principles. "Such operations should not merely be performed because one person desires it. There must be clear physical justifications to do so," stated an official ruling. It provoked deep divisions among

Egypt's doctors and psychiatrists similar to those aroused over other subjects on which Egypt's traditionally tolerant society has in recent years become increasingly responsive to the strictures of Islamic law. An unidentified surgeon who wrote

to the union protesting at the opera-

tion claimed that cutting off male genitals and making an artificial vagina did not make Sally a woman. Other critics argued that Islamic teaching only permitted such surgery if a person had hidden male or female organs which could not be revealed without it "If Sally had been born with the organs of both sexes, the operation would have been accept-

able," Dr Negm said. Dr Gibraiel, a surgeon with 21 years experience, argued that Sally had been physically male but psychologically

female and could not help behaving like a woman as she was born with a female-orientated hrain. "Those people who attack me have not seen the torture people like Sally go through," he said. "She was ill. She hated her gender. She could have committed suicide. It was my duty as a doctor to help."

The doctor, who claimed that many similar operations in Egypt had been hushed up, said that no laws banned the operation, which was described in medical text books available at Egyptian universities. He also announced plans to take legal action challenging the union's withdrawal of his licence. Sally, whose case is known by word

of mouth to most ordinary Egyptians,

has baffled the country's formidable

army of bureaucrais. She has not been permitted to change the sex on her birth certificate until a government committee rules officially that she is now a woman and not a man. She has also been unable to enter another college to complete her medical degree because officials do

not recognize her as female.

Gulf War were postponed indefinitely yesterday, with diplomats warning that "years" of tortuous negotiations lay ahead to avert a resumption of hostilities. Nearly four months after

the two sides agreed to a ceasefire, Baghdad and Tehran cannot even agree to meet, let alone tackle the issue of their disputed horder demarcations, which led to the start of the war in 1980.

> Nations mediator, Mr Jan Eliasson, said in Geneva yesterday after bolding fringe talks with the two sides. are definitely in a difficult

"Unfortunately, we can still not report progress on the major issues," the United support the reports. One UN source added: "We

position now. I would not put my money on an early resumption of the Geneva talks. They will not resume in January." Once optimistic that the bloody and costly to a renewed war." conflict was finally over,

Talks to secure peace in the Western diplomats are now Senor Javier Perez de Cuellar, expressing concern that hostilities could restart in the long urity Council Resolution 598, term unless a stable peace is

> reached. "I don't think hostilities will start again while the negotia-

Paris (AFP) - A wave of secret executions has virtually emptied Iranian jails of pol-itical prisoners, according to reports from relatives. Tehran has denied reports of mass executions which Anmesty International had described as the biggest wave of secret political killings in Iran since early this decade. But testimonies from relatives carried to France by Iranian travellers

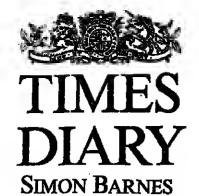
tions are going on," said one senior Western diplomat. "But in the longer term, if there is no settlement which is fair to both sides, it could lead

the 10-point blueprint for peace in the Gulf War. Both sides have accepted the resolution in theory.

In practice, however, both Baghdad and Tehran have selected different elements of the peace plan they find most attractive and have stub-bornly refused to com-promise. The main obstacle is Iraq's claim to the whole of the Shatt al-Arab waterway, its. only outlet to the sea. Iran insists on recognition of the 1975 Algiers agreement which divides the disputed waterwaydown the middle. Iraqi troops are still holding

pockets of Iranian territory but are not expected to withdraw while Baghdad has other outstanding demands. One such demand is that the Shatt al-Arab waterway be

dredged and its shipping allowed to sail through the The UN Secretary-General,



ere, surely, is the finest sports story of all time: the golfer who, with one stroke, destroyed a nation's entire air force. Metthieu Boya of the West African state of Benin was practising his golf during his factory lunch break on ground hard by an airstrip. He unleashed a drive that was not one of his best. Instead of going straight, it careered off, and struck the windscreen of a jet that was about to take off. The pilot lost control and ploughed into a line of four fighters, destroying them all.

The Benin government was inclined to hold Boya responsible for the £44 million of damage. Since he only earns £425 a year, it would clearly take him a while to pay. There was also talk of charging him with "hooliganism", which would have meant a possible six-month sentence. But in the end he was let off with a £45 fine and a sevenday suspended sentence. Benin, however, is now without an air force. I am indebted to the January issue of Golf Monthly for this

ith only a week to go before football's match of the season, Westfield v Chobham in the Danair Combined Counties League, I have to report that both teams are coming into form at the right time. Well, Chobham haven't actually got a point yet. The worst run in their 83-year history continues. But things are looking up - they only lost 1-0 to Farleigh Rovers last week, and felt they were

unlucky not to win.

This follows a change of manager. The last incumbent, Nick Clark, was, says the secretary, Daisy Whalley, candidly, appointed only "because we couldn't get anyone else". The new man, John Lewis, announced his presence with a Crisis Meeting. The club has used 40 players this season, and has 90 registered, but the previous week only five turned up for training. Mrs Whalley said: "I just hope we can get together our best team for Christmas Eve." But since this column turned its eye on Chobham's great rivals, Westfield, they have gone from strength to strength. Last Saturday they scored their second point of the season when they drew with Ash United; and on Tuesday they travelled to Horley Town where they won by an incredible 4-2.

A s English cricket flounders in the mire of ineptitude and waits for the Coming of Hick, India produces a new prodigy, the youngest player ever to score a century in the Ranji Trophy, the country's number one competition. He is Sachin Tendulkar, who is 15 years and seven months, and he scored his ton on his recent debut for Bombay against Gujarat. He was unbeaten, and did the business off 129 balls in 186 minutes, and bit 12 fours in the process

I do not think, however, that I can claim bim as the youngest ever scorer of a firstclass hundred, though records are surprisingly elusive on this point. There have been other prodigies, notably Mushtaq Mohammed, who made his first-class debut at 13 years and 41 days. He played for Karachi Whites, and though failing to get a ton, he hit a creditable 87 and then took 5 for 28. Mushtaq made his Test debut at 15 years and 124 days and had two Test centuries



'First it was eggs, now their corn and old chestauts . . .'

his week I received a sad letter from Paradise, California, from a cricket enthusiasi improbably based at that improbable address. Jim Horne was delighted when a business trip gave him two days in London since, he thought, he could make a pilgrimage to Lord's. He reached the Grace Gates, and was told that the only chance he had to see inside was on a Friday afternoon tour. It was Tuesday. "Disappointed, I inquired if I might so much as walk i00 feet and ascend the dozen steps for a once-in-a-lifetime glimpse through the shackled gates. 'Certainly not', I was advised by the guard." It's hard to get into Lord's when you have every right to be there -even if you are actually playing, as my old friend Phit Edmonds will tell you.

he all-party Parliamentary Grey-hound Club met for the first time at Wimbledon Stadium on Tuesday. It includes three lords and a government whip among its 20 members and owns two dogs. the resonantly named Hon Member and Division Belle. There is a bit of polities among the pleasures, of course: greyhound racing is lobbying for the right to set up a greyhound racing levy board. After all, if horses get a rake-off from betting, why not dogs? Fair's fair. I wish I could report that Tuesday gave our legislators something to celebrate. In fact both dogs were well and uruly beaten.

olice visited the Crystal Palace dressing-room at half-time on Tuesday during the Simod Cup match against Southampton. Someone had tipped them off that players had been heard swearing on the pitch (Footballers Use Bad Language Shock) and the players were told that if they continued to do so, they could be arrested. By one of life's little ironies, Crystal Palace have this season decorated their ground with signs saying that users of hard words will be ejected. The signs face the crowd, but could always be swivelled through 180 degrees. I once called a referee something unprintable; but while the word was earthily Anglo-Saxon, the ref only spoke Cantonese. Transport in London is a com-

plex subject and deserves serious consideration. Few other topics could warrant and receive five pages of analysis in successive editions of The Times. Although The Times is to be congratulated for airing the issues in detail, I disagree with the conclusions reached by Paul Vallely and your

leading article of December 10.

Many have failed to see what has really happened in London in recent years. What has happened confounds every claim or prediction made six years ago when London Transport left its temporary controllers at County Hall. Reports then spread gloom and despondency. Little was said to prepare us for the massive increases in passenger numbers using the Underground, increased rail use and the fall in the number of people commuting by car which have, in fact, occurred.

We were promised station closures; instead the task now is to cope with stations too small and too few rather than too large and too many.

I believe that media coverage

from which emanate the sensible proposals that will benefit us all. Accurate reporting can only help.
The average Londoner could

is the key to informed debate

Peter Bottomley replies to The Times series on capital congestion

Getting London moving

about the London Assessment Studies - where we have commissioned consultants to look at ways of improving transport in four key areas around London — and come away thinking both that nothing is being done and that we are only interested in building motorways through every living

room in the capital. We are looking for solutions which will improve mobility and improve conditions for residents. We have said so, in detail and repeatedly. The information afforded has not always been transmitted.

Typical of the sort of scheme

we are looking for is the Rochester Way Relief Road — a GLC project started in 1981 to build a road alongside a railway to give relief to local communities. The scheme has cut "rat-running" by motorists, made movement safer for pedestrians and helped

public transport passengers by freeing bus routes from cross-London traffic and radial

Another illustration of what can happen is the Western Environmental Improvement Route (Weir), a scheme to channel road traffic away from homes. The idea was announced

in 1984, demonstrated to a double-decker bus load of tele-vision crews, journalists and photographers in March 1987, and was the subject of press notices the same year when its line was safeguarded and public consultation predicted. Eighteen months later it made headlines as a "secret plan". It is small wonder that many people end up with a totally misleading im-pression of what is going on.

Paul Vallely rightly reports the massive growth in car ownership in London - a growth which was not predicted or even imagined when much of London's housing was being built. From some quarters one might get the impression that cars were acceptole for a well-off, white, male middle-class with a parking space at work. When the rest of us want and can afford one, it suddenly becomes fashionable to advocate pricing travel, if not

ownership, out of reach.

Current calls for a new London strategic planning au-thority are also fashionable. The shape, size and purpose of this body are not clear. The GLC spent II years developing the Greater London Development Plan and scrapped the roads element five years after it was adopted. Is that to be repeated?

No. A new strategic authority is not the answer to congestion in London. Past attempts at solving the problems through master plans have failed. Such detailed comprehensive planning amounts to a recipe for doing nothing. The Department of seriously their clear responsibility to create a coherent

Grand plans depend on grand forecasts. Nowhere can I find any published forecast, prediction or extrapolation made in the past eight years which indicated the realities of today.

If each London-based newspaper had been asked 10 years ago to set down the transport needs for its supplies, its distribution, its journalists and production staff, their answers

ould look odd now. We are not about to turn our backs on the successful policies that have given us eight years of economic growth. London is vibrant and does not want stilling with ineffective planning. What is wanted is continued action in tackling the varied

urgent problems directly.
This is what is happening.
Investment in public transport is

at record levels. Work on providing better orbital movement on trunk roads has been stepped up. Support for similar schemes on local roads has increased. New technology is being applied to traffic control systems to im-prove the flow of traffic. Illegal parking is being tackled vig-

WILLIAM RE

Not in a hundred years, but in five and ten we shall see the service improvements that will come from infrastructure improvements in public transport. We shall see the road and rail links which have made possible the rebirth of Docklands. We shall see more reverse commut-

More of us will have cars. More London borough centres will be freed from the environmental nightmare of endless traffic as a result of locally-led

The London Assessment Studies will produce options to take forward as proposals with positive net benefits for us all - as home owners, car drivers, bicyclists, pedestrians and public transport passengers.
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The author, MP for Eltham, is Parliamentary Under-secretary of State at the Ministry of Transport.

Ben Pimlott

In the forest something stirs

he most significant thing about the Epping Forest by-election is not that the Tories did badly but that nobody else did very well. A better-thanexpected verdict on the Demo-crats must be qualified by the thought that had the Alliance still existed, it would probably have won. Labour, on the other hand, hoped to come second and failed miserably. Plus ca change.

A generation ago shivers were sent down socialist spines by a book called Must Labour Lose? Today, in the wake not only of Epping but also of the SNP victory at Govan, and on the eve of Mrs Thatcher's 10th anniversary year, the question on the left is the same, but starker; can the Tories ever be defeated?

The conventional wisdom is negative. According to Gallup, (which has just put Labour 11 points behind), four out of five voters are predicting another Tory victory in 1991 or 1992. This is mainly a product of the present political weather, but it also has a solid statistical basis. Neil Kinnock needs a pro-Labour swing twice as large as Harold Wilson obtained in 1964 even to equal the Conservatives, let alone to get an overall majority. What is more, Wil-

son's triumph followed three years of opinion poll supremacy, in contrast to Labour's bleak performance in the 1980s. Yet, oddly enough, there are

also some quite substantial reasons why the Government's opponents, collectively, can enter the festive season with good cheer. The Tory slump at Epping despite a good candidate and campaign - may reflect some-thing that has been visible in the polls for some time. The smooth graph of Tory electoral superiority since 1987 actually masks a subterranean growth of bostility towards most of what the Government is doing. The received view about Thatcherism is that it is populist -- with an implication of adeptness at riding or leading public opinion. Maybe it used to be. Today, however, the Government has the rare distinction of being in public disfavour on almost every major platform in

its legislative programme. If policies were decided by referendum, there is little of the Tory whirlwind - from privatization to the poll tax - that would not

be voted out. In short, the Government is not only selling off water, but walking on it, its popularity rating held up by mysterious forces. The Prime Minister's personal standing remains high, as does her Government's reputation for competence. For the time being, these may count for more than policy. But recent MORI evidence that a summer of economic optimism among voters has turned into a winter of deep pessimism can scarcely be regarded as incidental. For the Government to continue to treat the electorate as a gigantic fan club, without significant opinions, may be as foolhardy, in the long run, as seeking to defy the laws of gravity.

There are other points to bear in mind. By mid-term, governments often do badly and oppositions frequently forge ahead. That hasn't happened this time, which is one reason why people are so dismissive of Labour's

t is also usual, however, for a pre-election boom to be followed by a post-election recession, and that hasn't happened either. Instead, the 1987 election heralded a period of economic buoyancy episode has passed and brakes have been applied, but credit has continued to be readily available and the majority of mortgage payers have yet to feel the bite of higher interest rates. As credit becomes tighter and home-owners are forced to pay up in the spring, so passive pessimism among voters about the economy could turn to active irritation with the Government's erratic handling of it.

Government popularity is one thing, opposition plausibility another. All the opposition par-ties, especially Labour, have such a backlog of voter-hostile fumbling that confidence in the Government may have to drop a long way before any other party



gains from the fall-out. Already, the Government's lead is probably assisted by a tacit acceptance of the dictum that there is no alternative. Whether such a judgement is fair is a matter of opinion. Few, however, would dispute that Labour is now performing better in Parliament than at any previous time in the decade. Youth and freshness are

beginning to tell. In recent clashes, the Government's most imposing ministers have not exactly been on the ropes, but they have certainly been glad of the sound of the bell Mean-while, outside the Commons, Labour's policy review has been producing recommendations of the utmost (even perhaps excessive) sobriety.

Though the possibility of a "leap in one bound" from opposition to ontright majority victory is certainly remote, the chance of a minority win is real, while for the former Alliance parties there remains the possib-ility of partnership with Labour in a bung parliament. In politics (as Mrs Thatcher is fond of remarking) the unexpected frequently happens.

There was no precedent for the 1974 Liberal and Nationalist upsurge that turned Britain into a multi-party system. There was no precedent in 1983 for a government presiding over a re-turn to mass unemployment and winning the subsequent election. If Labour and the other opposition parties make a rapid recovery, that too will be unprecedented, but it would scarcely be the most surprising event in voting history.

e hear the argument that the prestige of this government is so high that it receives acclaim for what it is and no longer needs support for what it does. That can be commered by the thesis that, if Torvism were an equity, any stockbroker would reckon it to be over-valued, and that Labour's current rating constitutes a market opportunity. What strengthens this view is the new possibility that Labour and some of the other opposition parties could coordinate and even start to speak on some issues with a united

For Labour, the most depressing legacy of the 1981 split was consequent social and intellectual isolation: the forced march into a ghetto of oldfashioned policies and defensive party chauvinism, which was deeply unattractive to waverers. Today, not only is there a widespread acceptance that a hung parliament (which would require inter-party co-operation) is a sufficiently ambitious goal; elec-toral reform — which would mean banishing majority governments for ever - has become a subject of keen debate across the non-Conservative spectrum.

related events. A sense of common cause among members of different opposition parties on many social and related issues recently belped to inspire the newsletter Samizdat, whose ecumenical call for a "popular front of the mind" has evoked an overwhelmingly enthusiastic response. This was followed by the New Statesman-backed Charter 88 campaign for constitutional reform, which has also achieved a wide following. Separately conceived, both have in common an impatience with the tramline exclusivity of opposition parties and the need to broaden the battle against inadequately-checked government

People who used to swap insults are now sharing platforms and discussing joint documents: left-wing socialists are to be seen lying down with Liberals, Labour stalwarts with Democrats. An electoral pact, advocated by two Labour MPs, John Reid and John Evans, is a political dead end, and there is certainly a limit to the extent of possible contact. Yet there is clearly emerging the chance of a new, broad-based, consensus of a kind that has not existed since the early 1960s - isolating this administration and giving a lie to the notion of a consensus in the Government's favour.

Large streams from little fountains flow. The revival of opposition fortunes may immediate, and the Conservatives will certainly not be easily beaten, despite Epping. Nevertheless, it is worth remembering that at the equivalent stage in the 1959 parliament before Wilson's eventual victory the Tories still held their lead Today, the opening of lines of communication left-of-centre may help to generate a mood in which the narrow basis of official policy can be exposed. Certainly, the chance of developing a new progressive momentum may be greater than at any time for a generation.

The author is editor of Samizdat, available from 18 Victoria Park Square, London E2 (£12 per

Commentary • Graham Mather

Cracking the edifice

The compensation announcement for egg producers could have a long-term impact on the way Britain is governed. It is a major victory for a simple principle: that action by govern-ments can barm individuals, and that governments should be obliged to provide redress when their negligence or recklessness causes damage.

The egg producers were prepared to go to law. The prospect of a High Court case - were Mrs Currie's remarks a negligent misstatement?; what is the quantum of damages?; was it foresee-able that serious loss would be caused? - gave Whitehall an understandable fright.

No government which had introduced laws 10 make 1rades unions pay the economic costs of their acts would be comfortable to find itself in such a position. So compensation for egg producers makes economic and legal sense: but it could be the beginning of a new preparedness to sue government and its agencies, across a wide front of public-sector responsibilities.

The conventional response to this prospect is to complain about the spread of Americanstyle litigation. Lawyers grow rich, the parties are paralysed by legal costs, the law becomes an ever-present impediment to effective administrative action: so

the traditional wisdom goes. But there are many clues that Britain has suffered from insufficient resort to law — especially where government is concerned. Whatever a court may or would have decided on the eggs case, it seems eminently desirable that ministers and officials should weigh the consequences of their deeds and pronouncements against a test

which puts a price on behaviour which is negligent or reckless. A preparedness to go to law does not mean a rash of vexatious cases. The farmers' stand will give officials and ministers pause for thought across the world of public administration:

its value will be as much pour

encourager les autres as in its

specific application.

And legal constraints may be virtually the only means of constraining government growth in Britain, lacking the written constitution which in the United States and elsewhere can counterbalance governmental expansion, and with few signs that Parliament itself is effective or constitutionally-minded enough to put real checks on governmeni growth.

Government in Britain is changing its shape. Privatization has deprived it of ownership of large tracts of the economy. Yet there are many signs that it may regain, through powers of regula-tion of private sector activity, much or all of the influence it previously exercised directly.

Going to law is one of the best

ways of curbing this growth and making it accountable. As well as controlling administrative discretion, carelessness or negligence, it may prove the only redress for those who have been damaged by government failure. Thinking socialists, such as Professor Raymond Plant, now recognize that it would be better "to think in terms of empowering citizens rather than putting such faith in bureaucratic remedies". They are directing their work 10 replacing the "illusory public service model" of bureaucratic motivation with real rights for citizens. To work, those rights must be legal rights. To be

effective, a proportion will need to go to court.

Take the Highbury Quadrant parents. It is arguable that the

steps taken by the Inner London Education Authority were so inadequate, after receiving information about the state of education at the school, as to constitute negligence. Why should parents be discouraged from testing this through the law, and receiving compensation, if their childrens' prospects and careers have been damaged?

Again, it may be the case that, having equipped itself with a battery of regulatory powers, the conduct of the Department of Trade & Industry in the Barlow Clowes case did constitute negligence which would have foreseeable economic consequences for those who invested. It is not necessary to take a view on each case to appreciate that the only effective remedy may be to go to law: and that bureaucratic decisions about compensation levels may he affected by the knowledge that the alternative is to test the case openly in court.

There are other routes. Thanks to the judicial creativity of Lord Denning, local authorities and bodies with quasijudicial powers are likely to be held to have a general "duty to act fairly". Again, the courts have shown that they are prepared to use injunctions or declarations to enforce their own jurisdiction to review discretionary acts by government dures are unfair, justice impeded or rights infringed. Going to court "privatizes" the gov-ernmental process because it equips individuals with real and sometimes quantifiable rights,

where they would otherwise be

mere supplicants or lobbyists. The opportunities are much wider than is often imagined. Where central or local government is negligent or reckless, or breaches a statutory duty, and economic loss is caused which is reasonably foreseeable, it makes sense for citizens to look for a legal remedy. Already the Freedom Association exists to help appropriate cases — and the US pattern suggests that a range of legal foundations will spring up to help citizens bring cases in Britain, or to take them to the European Court of Human

The strength of the common law of England is that if can adapt painlessly and immediate ly to new circumstances. Had the egg producers relied upon legislation to give them justice they might have waited indefinitely. No statute anticipated or provided for the consequences of the salmonella statement. But the common law tort of negligence and its fellows are constantly available to citizens damaged by government. The egg producers showed imagination in the application of existing legal remedies — slander of goods, malicious falsehood, and

negligent misstatement - to their statement of claim. Few enjoy going to court. But the legacy of this particular action may be important. If businesses and individuals are helped by creative lawyers, pre-pared to use their imagination to apply existing legal remedies, the result could be a valuable prize a government made more constrained and accountable by the

effective enforcement of com-

mon law rights. The author is general director, Institute of Economic Affairs.

ON THIS DAY

DEC 17

These cards of o century ago hardly reflect the popular image of an "old-fashioned Christmas". CHRISTMAS CARDS

The custom of exchanging upon ornamented cards the compliments proper to Yule-tide - a costom of not quite such recent origin as is sometimes imagined

— has acquired the importance
and dignity of a regular institution. Christmas is now armed
with greater terrors for the letter Valentine itself. In all parts of the country the resources of the Post Office are strained to the utmost on the 24th of December, as may e inferred from the emphas

with which Mr Pawcett annually

urges the public to despatch these tokens of amity and goodwill before the eleventh hour. Naturally enough, the artistic value of the cards has increased with their popularity, thanks in some measure to the enterprise shown by Messrs Raphael Tuck and Sons in causing a competitive exhibition of designs for articles of the kind to be held at the Dudley Gallery. Formerly as deficient in that quality as the illustrations, long deer to exhibit and the control of t illustrations, long dear to ex-trame youth, of evil-minded earls and bold buccaneers, most of them have come to be marked by them have come to be marked by graceful or humorous fancy, care in drawing, and delicacy of colouring. Nor do those prepared for the present season fall below the standard reached within the

lest three or four years. Inanimate nature still receives more than a due share of attention at the hands of the artists but no falling-off in fineness of execution is to be perceived. Especially elaborate are the cards; in plush, with a border of fringe, issued by Messrs Tuck and Sons, Messrs Philipp Brothers, and Mesers Saunders and Co.

It is not too much to say that the maximum of richness is here secured with the minimum of gaudiness. Messra Walker and Co's collection is noteworthy for other reasons; it consists of paintings by hand on ivory or ivorine, and in each case a little artistic triumph is achieved.

From Messrs Samuel and Co we have received some cards on which crosses in mother-of-pear are surrounded with flowers, and from Mr Wallis, the repre-sentative in London of Mesars watercolour sketches. In point of number and variety, perhaps no stock is superior to that of Messrs Hildesheimer and Faulkner who are particularly fortunate in a little portfolio of etchings by Mr Wilfrid Couldery, and in aketches of mountain scenery.

Mesers De La Rue, like Mesers Marcus Ward and Co, Messrs Eyre and Spottiswoode, and Mr Ollendorff, rely as a rule on somewhat conventional forms, but go far to compensate us for this by the care bestowed upon the workmanship. Few things they have done are better than "Merry Chirps" — a representa-tion in chromo-lithography, with fringed edging, of original watercolour drawings of birds rejoicing in brilliant phynage — and a few paintings on white satin. A word of praise is also due to the ductions of Mr Ackermann, Mr Barding, Mr Marx and Messrs Mansell

Messrs Dean and Son, besides some pretty cards on ivory and ivorine, have a decided novelty in the shape of a few paintings on little bevelled mirrors, and the idea is executed with charming effect. It may here be mentioned too, that Mesers Wyman and Son have brought out a series of cards which in addition to being or-namented with clever drawings. have the merit of collectively enabling children to play a round game. The pack is entitled "Merry Matches", and should not be passed over at this season.



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FARMERS' REVENGE

It used to be said that a political career was all the better for a good resignation. Mr Enoch Powell, Lords Thorneycroft, Boyle, and, most decisively, Wilson, offer some support for the adage. Mr Heseltine may still put store by it. Even a bad resignation may not be

disastrous. Mr Parkinson proves that. Mrs Currie's resignation is, however, rather different. She does not dissent from a principle of Government policy. She is involved in no personal scandal that may at some future stage be judged forgotten.

If any precedent for her behaviour is to be sought, the nearest is perhaps that of Hugh Dalton's Budget disclosure. Dalton acted uncharacteristically. He did return to Government, but never to so high a position as the one he left. Mrs Currie acted all too characteristically. She has left a very low, albeit much publicized, position. Her future prospects cannot be considered good.

Her departure from the Government has the immediate effect of lancing a political boil. It will not help the egg producers whose business she has damaged but it will help the Government Chief Whip, whom she saw before seeing the Prime Minister yesterday. There has grown a pressing need to soothe the anger of members for rural constituencies.

Her departure - neither willingly nor with grace - will bring silent pleasure to many Tories who, while envying her public relations skills, always said that they would end in tears. The backwoods Jeremiahs have had little opportunity to say "I told you so" in recent years. Generally, the various vulgarities of which they disapproved have gone down better with the voters than in the House of Commons bars. This time they have a scalp. They should not make too much of their triumph. It would certainly have been better had Mrs Currie apologized for the loose language of the ITN interview in which she said that "most" of the nation's eggs were afflicted with salmonella.

But Mr John Biffen's strictures in The Times yesterday, linking the refusal to apologize with a general "arrogance" within the Government, is wide of the mark. Mrs Currie is far from being a typical member of this Government.

Labour may congratulate itself on yesterday's news. After the party's poor performance in the Epping by-election almost any straw of cheer will be welcome on the Opposition benches.

Mrs Currie's is the first resignation from Mrs Thatcher's administration in which the Opposition can claim to have played any part. The achievement will do little, however, to help the party through the continuing crisis of electoral confidence which the coming by-election at Richmond and the subsequent European elections look likely to highlight further.

Mrs Currie has done much good by her warning about the dangers of salmonella, just as she did good by her strident warnings about bad diet and the need for old people to wrap up in winter. She speaks instinctively for consumers rather than producers.

She did not, however, tell the truth. She did not say sorry. One of the most colourful postwar resigners, Mr Stanley Evans in 1950, also fell out with the farmers. He accused them of being "featherbedded" and was known as "featherbed Evans" for the rest of his career. The member for Derbyshire South may have to get used to "Egg Currie" for a long time to

THE MUSIC STOPS

M. Jacques Delors did well to settle the portfolios of the new EEC Commission before the team headed off to its converted monastery in the Ardennes yesterday. The "night of the long knives" ritual was overdue for abolition.

Although the style of allotting responsibilities has been improved, the substance arouses more questions. The division of EEC "cabinet" posts has been compared by M. Delors, with some reason, to solving Rubic's cube. Part of the difficulty is that, as President of the Commission, he has to take what governments send him. Even top quality appointees selected in this way may not make a natural team; and this time not all EEC governments have given of their best, despite the obvious importance of this next four-year term.

With 17 commissioners, there are not enough serious jobs to go round, even with the Commission's enlarged responsibilities. This is a problem affecting more than national pride: there is no more fertile target for a lobbyist than an underemployed commissioner. Finally, the President has a duty, as M. Delors has been reminding us in recent months, to resist political pressures from member governments on behalf of their nationals.

Mr Leon Brittan, Lord Cockfield's successor, has done better than might have been expected, being given competition policy as anticipated but taking over, in addition, the task of liberalizing financial services. This constitutes a concession both to Britain and to common sense: to Britain, by sweetening the pill of losing the internal market portfolio, and to common sense, since Mr Martin Bangemann, the extremely able new West German commissioner for the internal market, hails from a country which is reticent about

liberalizing services. M. Delors has also chosen wisely in giving Madame Christiane Scrivener the sensitive responsibility for VAT harmonization. She is known to favour a more flexible approach than Lord Cockfield's and to understand the political impossibility, for Britain and Ireland, of abandoning zero rating for "social" items

such as childrens' clothing and food. The principal questions arise over three Delors appointments. The first is his choice of Signor Carlo Ripa de Meana for the environment. After his inept performance in social

affairs, his appointment by Italy for a second term did not exactly set the bells pealing in Brussels. To have given him a job which is bound to move sharply up the agenda and which will be increasingly in the public eye suggests that the greening of Europe is one of M. Delors' blind spots.

But it is in agriculture and external affairs that M. Delors looks like having made the misjudgements he will most regret. Mr Raymond McSharry, the new agriculture commissioner, is personally competent and experienced: but the principle of independence from national governments will be put to a severe test by giving an Irishman the job of reforming agricultural subsidies.

This might matter less were it not for the decision to put Mr Frans Andriessen in charge of external relations. The job will include responsibility for rescuing the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations from collapse and, a little further down the road, ensuring that the single market of 1992 neither leads, nor is perceived by outsiders to lead, to "Fortress Europe". For both tasks Mr Andriesser conversion as sweeping as St Paul's.

As agriculture commissioner, his anti-free trade fundamentalism - he is on record as saving that Europe will never abandon export subsidies and that farmers must not be left to the vicissitudes of markets - put him in headon confrontation with the United States. And he will take agriculture with him into his new job, since it is the key to progress in the Uruguay Round. The fact that Mr Clayton Yeutter, with whose philosophy as US trade representative Mr Andriessen was wholly out of sympathy, will be Mr Bush's new agriculture secretary, makes Mr Andriessen the last man M. Delors should have picked to end the deadlock. His choice will raise questions abroad about the Commission's real determination to do so.

The general lesson to be drawn is that the principle of independence among the EEC commissioners needs to be understood in a wider sense. M. Delors has made much of keeping governments at arm's length: the next Commission President will have to take equal care that they cannot be identified with any of the lobbies which besiege the Berlaymont, and whose influence can only increase as Europe moves towards integration.

TOO LITTLE LEVY

The betting industry in Britain is huge and growing. It is estimated that the turnover will be more than £3.1 billion in the current financial year, and its scale was illustrated vesterday when Grand Met (owners of the Meeca chain of 800 shops) paid £331 million for the William Hill business (of 906 shops), making it the second biggest chain in the

This is obviously a game for big players, if not necessarily for big-hearted ones. Bookmakers are not legendary for generosity and good spirit; even so, in the current deadlocked negotiations over the betting Levy, they have surpassed their own worst reputations.

The dispute is between the Horserace Betting Levy Board and its Bookmakers' Committee over the amount of its turnover that the betting industry should pay to support the sport upon which its livelihood depends. The present rate is 0.88 per cent which provides racing with £28 million. The many clements within the rest of the racing industry, in an unusual show of unity, want to raise it to up to 4 per cent of turnover.

The demand for a substantial increase is just. The bookmakers may live to regret the day their determination to keep down the Levy meant that the Home Secretary had to be asked

to arbitrate. When the Levy Board was set up in 1961 to distribute funds from bookmakers, those funds were voluntary. But payment was made compulsory in 1969, and the principle that bookmakers have a duty to support and enhance the high quality of British racing has been accepted since then.

A thriving racing environment would mean

expansion in betting, so surely the bookmakers should be looking a good deal beyond their present payment to the Levy? In fact, the bookmakers became obdurate in their negotiations with the Levy Board: their final offer was a reduced one of 0.82 per cent when something of the order of 1 per cent might well have been enough to satisfy the Levy Board and avoid examination by the Home Secretary.

The bookmakers argue that their profits are within normal commercial practice. That is hard to assess. Undoubtedly, the biggest difference between the resources of British racing and its rivals is that the bulk of the profit from betting here is retained by bookmakers while elsewhere it is reinvested in the sport.

The British bookmakers' contribution may be compared with £186 million in France (6 per cent of the income of the state-run betting) and £68 million in Australia (3.5 per cent of the betting turnover in the various states). No other major racing nation allows off-course betting to be run by private bookmakers.

Racing is a valued part of our heritage. It is a major service industry which employs nearly 100,000 people. It is suffering from poor facilities for racegoers, inadequate prize money to attract owners, appalling wages in stables, and insufficient investment in security measures against doping.

The urgent requirements of racing can be funded through the Levy Board until such time as a more direct market mechanism for racing's services can be put in place. Mr Hurd should also consider a Government inquiry into how the sport is funded, how its problems are to be solved and its international prestige maintained.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

degree exams

From the Rector of Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, and others Sir, We are distressed to learn that a majority of the members of the Association of University Teachers (AUT) who participated in the recent ballot, voted in favour of boycotting all work associated with the examination process (report, December 14), We understand and share the frustration felt by the academic community in the face of the continuing erosion of

academic salaries. The decline in real terms now amounts to over 20 per cent dur-ing the last decade. It is equally evident by comparison with other professional salaries, significantly including the Civil Service. The ment by the Secretary of State for Education and Science of an increase of the recurrent grant to the UGC for 1989-90 of 3.8 per cent, when the predicted rate of inflation will be substantially higher, does not inspire optimism for an early remedy.

Against this background, our ability to recruit, retain and motivate able academic staff is gravely weakened. The quality of the contributions which universities are able to make to society, industry and commerce is now most seriously threatened.

All of us joined the AUT at some stage in our earlier academic career. We saw no reason to withdraw, when we found ourselves bearing the responsibility for a university institution. It would therefore be with the greatest regret that we would now feel compelled to resign were the AUT to undertake this indefensible

boycott. Whilst one can sympathise with the feeling that "something must be done" the action proposed by the AUT is perverse on several counts. It is unlikely that it would allow Mr Kenneth Baker to extract more funds from the Treasury. Even more importantly, the only segment of the community that would be immediately hurt are our own students! An action which will disadvantage the very students whom we have so carefully recruited to our universities could never be justifiable.

We cannot, in conscience, support such action and would appeal to all our colleagues to honour their contracts and their obligations. Yours faithfully,

ERIC A. ASH, Rector, Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, JOHN M. ASHWORTH, Vice-Chancellor, University of Salford, CLARK-L. BRUNDIN, Vice-Chan-cellor, University of Warwick, JOHN H. HORLOCK, Vice-Chancellor, Open University, DENNIS LAWTON, Director, Institute of Education, University of London LAURENCE W. MARTIN, Vice-Chancellor, University of Newcastle, Imperial College of Science,

Exhibition Road, SW7. Drinking on TV From the Director of Television,

Technology and Medicine,

Sir, The General Secretary of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association (December 14) is wrong in alleging that the IBA's survey on "Alcohol in ITV and Channel 4 programmes" deliberately set out to invalidate
NVALA research. Far from being
a "knee-jerk" reaction, the IBA
report was completed and sent to
Mr John Wakeman, MP, Chairman of the Inter-ministerial Group on Alcohol Misuse, in August, well before the NVALA survey was published in November. The IBA's press release was timed to coincide with the press conference arranged by Mr Wakeham's inter-ministerial group.

He is, however, correct in pointing out that the terms of reference of the IBA's research were quite different from NVALA's. The IBA monitored specific alcobol consumption seen on screen in programmes rather than the "overall presence of alcohol on televison" — whatever that may mean. The IBA's survey took account of the context in which drinking took place.

Neither in its programmes nor in its research does the IBA minimise the problems which can be associated with alcohol. Yours faithfully, DAVID GLENCROSS, Director of Television, Independent Broadcasting Authority, 70 Brompton Road, SW3.

Response to Arafat

From Mr Jon Kimche Sir, Mr George Shultz has wisely decided, despite understandable Israeli doubts, to cut the Gordian knot and put the onus on the PLO - not just on Mr Arafat - to say clearly whether it stands by the decisions of the Palestine National Council taken last month at Algiers or whether it has now abandoned them in favour of the declaration made by Mr Arafat in Geneva.

Which then is the real Arafat: the PNC or the Geneva Arafat? The gulf between them is considerable.

There had been nothing ambig-mous in the PNC position. It was set out without ambiguity in three declarations passed by the council on November 15: the declaration of a Palestinian state, the declaration calling for an international conference and the "political declaration" with which the PNC

concluded its proceedings. The relevant elements of these decisions were not in the declaration of a Palestinian state. This

Vote to boycott Closer control of bank lending

From Mr Paul Bareau Sir, Inflation remains the unbeaten enemy and the Chancellor continues to put his faith in the exclusive weapon of high interest rates. It is a weapon that acts on only one side of the demandsupply equation.

In spite of a virtual doubling of base rates, from 71/2 to 13 per cent, bank credit continues to expand and no wonder. When the vendor creates, out of thin air and confidence, what he sells, the higher the price, the greater his urge to sell. The evidence is there in the figures of money supply and in the nation's daily postboxes.

There has been no diminution in the distribution by the commercial banks of tempting brochures inviting us to borrow (and spend) up to the hilt of the value of our assets. Higher rates will, in due course, reduce the demand for loans and the income available for household spending, but it will be at the cost of lower industrial investment, attraction of un-wanted foreign hot money, over-valuation of sterling, and damage to the balance of payments.

The time has come to attack the supply side of the bank credit problem. The limit set on the banks' power of credit creation is partly prudential (the credit risk), partly the reserve of cash which banks must hold as a proportion of their deposit liabilities. In some countries including the United States, these reserve ratios are statutory, but adjustable. Changes in the ratios are the most immedi-ate and powerful way of control-ling the volume of bank credit, which is a multiplier of the cash

In the UK the cash reserve, of which the main element is a bank's balance at the Bank of England, is conventional, not statutory, but rigorously monitored by the central bank. In the 1960s and early 1970s the Bank of England was given the power to call "special deposits" from the commercial banks, as a percentage of their total customers' deposits. These special deposits were not counted as part of their con-ventional cash reserve.

The device was later merged into much cruder forms of direct, quantitative credit controls - the corset" and the "ceiling" on advances. These tended to shift lending to the "fringe banks", with painful and memorable consequences. Thanks to the Bank Act and the Financial Services Act there is now no danger of a

Nurse grading From the Director of the Office of

Health Economics Sir, Figures recently published by the Secretary of State for Health go a long way to explain the current discontent within the nursing profession, but there is nothing remotely illogical or inherently unfair in them. Nevertheless anyone given a tower grading than other nurses who started at the same level may feel aggrieved. It is a monumental challenge to managers to explain to more than 44,000 individual nurses why they have received a smaller increase than their colleagues.

The lesson for the future must be that the management of human resources within the NHS needs to be improved, and perhaps reorg-anised at the highest level on to a regional or district basis rather than hoping to create universal good will through a national scheme to distribute a substantial wage increase. Yours faithfully

GEORGE TEELING SMITH Office of Health Economics, 12 Whitehall, SWt.

December 7. **Hereford Cathedral** From the Chapter Clerk of

Hereford Cathedral Sir, In response to Mr Ivor Bulmer-Thomas (December 6),

may I make four points clear. t. The cost of the marble and tiled platform under Hereford Cathedral's central tower has been largely met by donations, the Dean and Chapter having to find only £5,227 out of the total £26,389 required.

2. Although Mr Bulmer-Thomas states that "this has greatly upset the Friends of Hereford Cathedraff they lead the small list of benefactors with a generous gift of

3. Far from blocking the view, the

made no reference to UN Resolution 242 or to the recognition of Israel in any way.

The significant references were in the concluding political statement calling for an international conference "to implement Resolution 242". However, the PNC stipulated that such an international conference could convene only after a preliminary conference had ensured that Israel had withdrawn from all territories occupied in 1967 - the West Bank, Gaza, the Golan Heights and "Arab Jerusalem" - and when the UN had taken charge of these areas and a Palestinian independent state had been established there and all Israeli settlements removed.

Furthermore, all Palestinian refugees would be entitled "to return to their former homes" and the PLO would have the right to re-establish its former positions in south Lebanon.

Only when all this had been achieved would the PLO participate in an international con-ference in order to arrive at a "just settlement" - not peace with

repetition of this diversion of lending activity to uncontrolled There is a powerful case for a

renewed attempt to control bank credit at its base. A call for special deposits might lead to some rise in interest rates, but it would compel the commercial banks to call in loans and adopt a more severe and selective attitude to demands for additional credit. If no interest were paid on special deposits, they would provide a healthy penalty for overlending by the commercial

This solution of the monetary supply puzzle is perhaps too simple and common-sensible to occur to the wealth of theoretical and technical talent at the disposal of the Treasury, the Bank of England and Downing Street. So far there has not been a whisper of its being considered.

Yours faithfully, PAUL BAREAU, The Reform Club 104 Pall Mall, SWt.

From the Chairman of The Savers'

Sir, As a former MP, I feel compelled to respond to the Secretary of the Association of Bankrupts who argues (December 12) that Mr John de Courcy Ling should not express an opinion about consumer credit because be is a well-paid MEP. Westminster MPs and MEPs receive the same salary from HM Treasury. The idea that they should all remain silent on such issues is not very

I think that the Government's measures to cool the economy do deserve and will receive a response from the individual citizen. Continental habits over credit are more orthodox than ours. In Germany, people save for 3 per cent interest, such is their fear and memory of inflation and their respect for sound money.

As for the "money greed of the huge credit institutions", would lower interest rates actually re-strict or expand demand for credit? Remember that the saver, for so many years cheated by interest rates lower than inflation, deserves a fair return on what he has saved.

I remain your obedient servant, JOHN PAGE, Chairman, The Savers' Union, 3½ London Wall Buildings, London Wall, EC2. December 12.

Walking to school

From Mr Jeremy C. Burrows Sir, Mrs Holden (December 8) is mistaken in criticising the law lords for their strict application of section 39 of the Education Act 1944. Contrary to her belief, the courts' power to "interpret" statutes is a residuary power, only to be used when the natural and ordinary meaning of the words employed by Parliament is unclear or ambiguous.

The relevant words of section 39(5) are

In this section the express-ion... "walking distance" means, in relation to a child who has not attained the age of eight years two miles, and in the case of any other child three miles, measured by the nearest available route.

Faced with such clear and unambiguous language, there is surely nothing the courts can do but apply the section. If Mrs Holden wishes to see a change in the law, it is to the legislature, not the judges, that she ought to look. Constitutionally yours, JEREMY C. BURROWS, Magdalene College. Cambridge, December 8.

platform has enhanced the congregations' participation in ser-vices and, in particular, in the

Holy Communion. 4. Access to the chained library, which it is proposed to move to a site within the precincts, can at present be obtained only by an awkward circular staircase of 55 steps. It is almost impossible to gain fast access in case of fire and is totally inaccessible to the disabled.
Yours faithfully,
R. KINGSLEY-TAYLOR,

Chapter Clerk, The Cathedral Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St Ethelbert in Hereford, The Cathedral Office, 3a St John Street, Hereford. December 12.

Israel - within boundaries as yet unspecified and to be laid down by the international conference. Thus, according to the declaration of the Palestine National Council, provided Israel concedes all PLO demands in advance, the PLO will agree to a "just settlement" at an international conference. There would be no negotiations with Israel as such, which is described in the PNC document as "a racist,

fascist settler state" etc., etc.

There is nothing ambiguous about that. However, it might explain the lack of enthusiasm in Jerusalem for the Arafat presentation at Geneva and for Mr Shultz's conclusion that it would be worth further discussion.

The US envoy in Tunis will now have to obtain clear answers officially - not at press con-ferences or private tea-parties. Which Arafat does the PLO prefer to follow?

Yours faithfully, JON KIMCHE, PO Box 25, Westhumble, Dorking, Surrey. December 15.

Political bias in the arts

From Sir Hugh Leggatt Sir, Lord Goodman writes ("This tragedy for the arts", December 10) that governmental appointments to the whole range of national art organizations are being restricted to people holding right-wing views. With respect, the evidence does not bear this out.

It would be invidious to name names but as one wholly involved in the arts world at the present time I am convinced that Lord Goodman's "sources in the present Government" are mis-taken in this regard. This false idea has been put about by a disenchanted minority and as such should be ignored.

Lord Goodman also asserts that the arms-length principle is being breached. I cannot speak for the Arts Council but as far as the visual arts are concerned my experience suggests that this is not so. To take one example, the Government allocates millions of pounds of tax-payers' money to the National Heritage Memorial Fund. And it is unthinkable seriously to suggest that its trustees do not act totally independently.

Further, it is public knowledge that neither the Secretary of State for the Environment nor the Minister for the Arts - who are jointly accountable to the nation at the end of the day - has ever sought to influence a decision by the trustees of the fund. Yours faithfully, HUGH LEGGATT,

Leggatt Brothers, 17 Duke Street.

St James's, SWt. From Mr David Tudor-Pole Sir, We should feel "nothing but shame" about the "mental tor-ment" and "torture" inflicted on "people with a high sense of civil responsibility" writes Lord Goodman, apparently in reference to "volunteer boards" supplied with taxpayers' money "just short" of

what they need! Has it not occurred to anyone connected with the Arts Council that it is just this kind of condescending hyperbole that al-most everyone — who in the normal course of daily life copes with such a contingency — finds so

off-putting? The Arts Council currently owns a vast collection of fairly modern British art, much of which now rarely is seen. Why should it not take advantage of a buoyant art market to recycle some of this unused collection in order to reduce the suffering of which Lord Goodman speaks?

Yours truly, DAVID TUDOR-POLE, Flete, Ermington, Devon.

Heritage for sale

From Dr R. W. J. Keay Sir, The Rysbrack bust of James bbs referred to by Marcus Binney (article, December 3) has indeed been sold to the Victoria and Albert Museum for £465,000. However, it would be a mistake to think that this sum has come to St Martin-in-the-Fields, as Mr Binney implies.

Substantial legal costs had to be met, arising from lengthy deliberations by the Chancellor of the Diocese of London; and there was also the fce to Christie's, generously set at a lower rate than usual

The chancellor ordered that the nett proceeds should be paid to the Consistory Court. Thus, although the property of the bust was vested in the churchwardens, the proceeds from its sale are held by the court and can only be used as and when the court thinks fit. Yours faithfully, RONALD KEAY, 38 Birch Grove. Cobham, Surrey.

Hands off!

From Mr Robert Barkshire Sir, Lord Moyne's defence of traditional station clocks (December 13) must recall to many that surely most socially well-known beauty at Victoria. What countless trysts have been associated with meet you under the clock at Victoria", always assuming this to be more mutually acceptable than that other past favourite — "outside Swan & Edgar's".

"Meet you under the digitals"? -Heaven, or British Rail, preserve us! Yours sincerely, ROBERT BARKSHIRE The Boat House, Fowey, Cornwall.

Sweetness and light

From Mr Michael Palmer Sir, Mr Meades refers in "Eating out" (December 10) to a "pudding. wine". Whilst it is comforting that at least your newspaper is aware that there is still a course called pudding, it is disturbing that your. correspondent has overlooked the dessert which of course antedates the pudding.

Dessert, consisting essentially of fruit and nuts, provides compar-atively little difficulty in the choice of an appropriate wine. Pudding may range from apple crumble to zabaglione and it would therefore be useful to have some indication from Mr Meades as to what could best constitute a "pudding wine".
Yours faithfully, MICHAEL PALMER,

8 rue des Franciscaines, Luxembourg (GD). December t2.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number -(01)782 5046.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE December 16: His Excellency
Baron Hermann von
Richthofen was received in
audience by The Queen and
presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambaszeriers of Credence as Ambas-sador Extraordinary and Pleni-potentiary from the Federal Republic of Germany to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompa-nied by the following members of the Embassy who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Herr Helmut Wegner (Minister Plenipotentiary), Captain Daglef Gerbardt (Naval Attaché), Herr Gerhardt (Naval Attaché), Herr Bruno Weber (First Counsellor, Head of Press Department), Herr Dr Otto Roever (First Counsellor, Head of Economic Department), Herr Dr Jubst Wilmanns (Counsellor, Legal and Consular Affairs), Herr Ernst Fischer (First Secretary, Head of Administrative Affairs), Frau Göttle Roscher (Second Secretary, Private Secretary) and Herr Rolf-Dietrich Wetzel (Attaché, Consular).

Baroness von Richthofen had the honour of being received by

the honour of being received by The Queen.

Sir Patrick Wright (Permahent Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty, was present and the Household in Waiting were in attendance. in Waiting were in attendance.

Mr Justice McCollum (a Justice of the High Court in Northern Ireland) had the bonour of being received by The Queen when Her Majesty con-ferred upon him the honour of Knighthood and invested him with the Insignia of a Knight

Mr Justice Campbell had the onour of being received by The Queen npon his appointment as a Justice of the High Court in Northern Ireland when Her Majesty conferred upon him the honour of Knighthood and invested him with the Insignia of a Knight Bachelor.
. The Duke of Northumberland had the honour of being received by The Queen and delivered up the Insignia of the Order of the Garter worn by his

COURT

late father.
Sir Peter Marshall had the honour of being received by Her Majesty upon relinquishing his appointment as Deputy Secretary-General (Economic) of the Commonwealth.

the Commonwealth.

The Prince Edward, President of the 2nd Holborn Great Investment Race, this morning announced the winning team and the total amount raised at the offices of Prudential Holborn Line (1998). born Unit Trust, 30 Old Burlington Street. Lieutenant-Colonel Sean

Cibwyer was in attendance.
The Princess Royal, Chancellor, University of London, this morning visited King's College London (King's College School of Medicine and Dentistry) and opened the James Black Equipment of the Moore Black Foundation at Half Moon Lane, Dulwich, SE24. Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by The Principal of the University of London (Mr P.

CLARENCE HOUSE December 16: Queen Elizabeth
The Queen Mother was present
this evening at the London Fire
Brigade Carol Service in St
Paul's Cathedral.
Lady Elizabeth Bestet and Sir

Alastair Aird were attendance. KENSINGTON PALACE

December 16: The Prince of Wales, Patron, Sue Ryder Home (Leckhampton Court), visited Leckhampton Court, Church Road, Leckhampton, Chelten-ham, Gloucestershire. Major Christopher Lavender

was in attendance,
Subsequently, His Royal
Highness visited Tetbury Hospital, Tetbury, Gloucestershire,
Major Christopher Lavender
and Mr Gerald Ward were in attendance.
The Princess of Wales at-

The Princess of Wales attended the Olympia International Show Jumping Championships, Grand Hall, Olympia, W14.
Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith, Lieutenant-Commander Patrick Jephson, RN, and Mr Richard Arbiter were in attendance.

in the "Kitty Hawk" at Kill Devil Hill, North Carolina, 1903.

BIRTHS: Charles Wesley,

Anniversaries

Tomorrow

-Today BIRTHS: Ludwig van Beethoven, Bonn, 1770; Sir Humphrey Davy, nriginatur of the miners Davy, nriginatir in the miners' safety lamp, Penzance, 1778; John Greenleaf Whittier, poet, Haverhill, Massachusetts, 1807; Jules de Goncourt, diarist, Paris, 1830; Ford Madox Ford, novelist and critic, Merton, Surrey, 1873; W. L. Mackenzie King, prime minister of Canada 1021, 24, 1026, 20, 1928, 48, 1866. 1921-26, 1926-30, 1935-48, Ber-lin, Ontario, 1874.

DEATHS: Simon Bolivar, "fiberator" of South America, Santa Marta, Colombia, 1830; Wil-Marta, Colombia, 1830; William Thomson, 1st Baron Kelvin, physicisi. Largs, Strathclyde, 1907; Sir Bernard Spilsbury, pathologist, London, 1947; Harold Holt, prime minister of Australia 1966-67, drowned off Portsea, Victoria, 1967.

The first powered flight was achieved by the Wright brothers 1971.

Luncheons HM Government Mr Richard Luce, Minister for

the Arts, was bost at a luncheon held yesterday at Admiralty House for actors and actresses Among those present were: AMONG those present were:
Lord St John of Frunsley, Mr Kenneth
Baker, Mp., Mr Penul Chemson, Mp.,
Nr Rechard Live, Mr House, Mr.,
Rechard Live, Mr House, Mr.,
Park, Mr.,
Rechard Live, Mr.,
Live, Mr.,
Park, Mr.,
Park,
Park, Mr.,
Park,
Park

The Master's Club Mr John Arlott presided at a Master's Club luncheon held vesterday at the Oval, Mr Doug

War and Peace Ball

The first Russian ball in London for 40 years marking the close of the millenium year, is in be held on January 13, 1989 (Orthodox New Year's Eve) at the Cafe Royal, Regent Street, London, W1. Russian menu and Bala-laiks troupe. Tickets £38 each, including dinner and dancing. Period dress 1812 optional. Please apply 10 4 Pembroke Close, London, SW1, or tele-phone 01-720 9219.

Dinner

The Duke of Sutherland Mr Angus Grossart, Chairman of the Trustees of the National Galleries of the National Galleries of Scotland, presided at a dinner held last night at the National Gallery, Edinburgh, in honour of the Duke of Suther-

lifer, Atlanta, Georgia

University news

Stirling Mr Sam Black, former president of the International Public Rela-tions Association, is in become the first honorary professor of public relations at Stirling.

Wales
Dr Catherine Belsey, senior
lecturer in the School of English,
Journalism and Philosophy,
University College, Cardiff, and Mr John Edwards, senior lec-turer in accountancy, Cardiff Business School, have been promoted to readers from Janu-

Warwick Dr Susan Bassnett, of the Graduate School of Comparative Literature, and Dr Edward Countryman, comparative American studies, have been promoted to personal readerships.

Longhborough
Honorary degrees have been
conferred on Humphrey Lyttelton (DLitt) and Colonel Sir
Andrew Martin, Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire (DTech).



CHAUMET

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Forthcoming marriages

Mr T. Antenicelli and Miss S.L. Castree
Mr and Mrs Alan Castree, of Sale, Cheshire, are pleased to announce the engagement of their elder daughter, Sarah Louise, to Mr Tommaso Antonicelli, of Bari, Italy.

Mr A.G. Arasstrong and Miss M.A. Ashby The engagement is announced between Andrew, second son of Mr and Mrs Paul Armstrong, of Should Gross Species Shamley Green, Surrey, and Marion, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Ashby, of East Grafton, Wilsshire.

Mr R. Coe and Mrs A.G. Cox

The engagement is announced and the marriage will take place at Easter, between Rodney Coe, of Hythe, Kent, and Ann Geraldyne Cox (née Wolfe), of Blackbeath, SE3.

Mr C.M. Considine

The engagement is announced between Christopher, eldest son of Lieutenant-Commander M.A. Considine and the late Mrs Considine, of Victoria, BC, Canada, and Susan, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs J.V.M. Jameson, Gatchouse of Fleet, Scotland.

Mr N.J. Emmett and Miss J.M. Lausdale The engagement is announced between Jonathan, eldest son of Dr and Mrs R.A. Emmott, of Heath, and Jo, only daughter of Mr and Mrs B. Lonsdale, of

Mr P.F. Ferguson and Miss S.G.L Turner

The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs Ronald Ferguson, of New Romney, Kent, and Susan, daughter of the late Mr and Mrs P.M.I. Turner.

Captain J.M. Field and Miss C.M. Christian

The engagement is announced between Jeremy Mark, younger son of Dr and Mrs E.O. Field, of Oxshott, Surrey, and Carole Rogers and the late Mrs Delma Mary, only daughter of Mr and lin, and Moira, daughter of Dr and Mrs Jack Schofield, of Swaffham, Norfolk. Graignamanagh, Co Kilkenny.

Mr W.T.N.P. Goff and Miss E.A. Freeland The engagement is announced between William, younger son of the late the Very Reverend and Mrs E.N. Porter Goff, and Elizabeth, daughter of the late Dr.D.E. Freeland and of Mrs P. Freeland, of Buckhurst Hill, Essex.

Mr J.N.D. Grover and Miss M.R. Kelly

The engagement is announced between Jim, son of the late Lieutenant-Colonel James Gro-ver, MBE, and of Mrs Gillian Grover, of April Cottage, Sissinghurst, Kent, and Ruth, younger daughter of Mr Michael Kelly, OBE, and Mrs Diana Kelly, of Portwinkle, Cornwall.

Mr P.W.B. Page and Miss S.K. Mundell

and Miss S.K. Mundell
The engagement is announced
between Peter, youngest son of
Major General and Mrs John
Page, of Long Sutton, Somerset,
and Sally, elder daughter of Mr
and Mrs Blake Mundell, of
Madderty, Perthshire.

The engagement is announced between Barry, son of Brian Rogers and the late Mrs Delma

Mr M.B. Wood and Miss N.M. Govier Wright The engagement is announced between Marcus Bennett, son of Mr and Mrs K. Wood, of Claremont, California, USA, and Wendy Margaret, daughter of Mr and Mrs F.C. Wright, of Carmariben, Dyfed.

Mr C.P. Yeadon anf Miss LA. Cossford

and Miss LA. Cessiord
The engagement is announced
between Christopher Paul,
younger son of Mr and Mrs
Harry Yeadon, nf Lytham St
Annes, Lancashire, and Inger
Anne, only daughter of Mr and
Mrs Eric Cessiord, of Edinhursh Scotland

Kelly, OBE, Kelly, of Portwrinkle,

Mr C.T. Joice and Miss J.L. Edwards
On The engagement is announced between Charles, only son of late Mrs Roger Joice and the late Mr J. Joice, of Collicirk Hall, Norfolk, and Juliet, only daughter of Mr Henry Edwards, of Hardingham Hall, Norfolk, and Mrs Geoffrey Baber, of Brockley, Suffolk.

I leutensut P.R.J. Lott, EN and Miss E.M. Musro
and Miss E.M. Musro
engagement is announced between Charles, only son of Mr Jarratt, younger daughter of Sir Alex and Lady Jarratt, of Fryerning Essex.

N. Morris

N. Morri

Mr N. Morris
and Miss L. Acland
A Service of Blessing took place
at Christchurch, Chelsea, on
Thursday, December 15, following the marriage of Mr Nicholas
Morris and Miss Lucy Acland.
The Rev Simon Acland
officiated A reception was held at Christie's, St James's.

Archaeology

Loyal warriors who followed their ruler to the grave

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

metropolis have discovered a series of warrior sacrifices that dramatically change current views of a peaceful and ntopian civilization.

Thought to have accompanied a ruling despot to his grave nearly 2,000 years ago, the warriors were buried with their hands tied, and may have been killed with their

BIRTHS: Charies Wesley, preacher and hymn writer, Epworth, Lincolnshire, 1707; Hector Hugo Munro (Saki), writer, Akyab, Burma, 1870; Sir Joseph John Thomson, physicist, Nobel laureate 1906, Manchester, 1856; Francis Thompson, poet, Preston, 1859; Paul Kiee, painter, Berne, 1879. DEATHS: Autonio Stradiusia. own weapons. The skeletons of more than DEATHS: Autonio Stradivari, 80 men have been found, most violin maker, Cremona, Italy, 1737; Jean Baptiste de Lamarck, of them in a series of mass graves. Some wore necklaces naturalist, Paris, 1829; Samuel Rogers, poet, London 1855; Sir of human jawbones, while Richard Owen, biologist, Newton, Powys, 1858; Sir John Alcock, aviator, killed in an aircrash, Cottévvard, France, 1919; Robert Tyre (Bobby) others had imitation jawbones made of plaster, with teeth of carved shell.

"We interpret them as a loyal guard, bonoured by being permitted to accompany their leader to the next world". said Professor George Cowgill, of Brandeis University, the American co-director of the investigations, at a recent conference in

Washington. The discoveries were made this summer at Teotihuacan, a huge urban site some 25 miles north-east of Mexico City. Named "City of the Gods" by the Aztecs and dominated by the great Pyramids of the Sun and Moon, the former with a base as large as that of the Great Pyramid in Egypt, Teotihuacan covers more than eight square miles, and is estimated to have had a population of between 125,000 and 200,000 at its

centuries AD. The population was packed into square apartment compounds, often decorated with

peak in the third to seventh

Excavations in the heart of tions and monumental art has ancient Mexico's greatest left no notion of who ruled the from shell and plaster. city, or how. Some scholars have suggested that it was run by a self-effacing priesthood or oligarchy, and one speaker at the Washington meeting, Professor Esther Pasztory, suggested that it was a Uto-

pian community. The evidence of the new excavations, presented later in the same symposium, contradicts that view they took place in the Temple of Ouetzalcoatl. a pyramid lying inside a huge rectangular compound known as the Cindadela, at the very heart of the city where its, main avenue, the "Street of the Dead" (another Aztec

name) intersects with another running almost at right angles. been thought to have held the seat of government: excavations on three sides of the pyramid, and tunnelling into show that it was also a place

of sacrifice and scoulture. In 1984 and 1986 two long burial pits were found on the north and south sides, each containing the skeletons of 18 young men with military accountrements, including obsidian spear points. These may have been part of the grave goods, but their irregular distribution in the pits suggests that they may have been the instruments of sacrifice, fired into the bound victims at close range.

This summer further pits were found on the east side, at the back of the pyramid: set in pairs, each pit held nine bodies, lying on their backs with the knees drawn up. Some wore collars of red shell beads, others long swags of human jawbones strung tomurals, but a lack of inscrip- gether to form a necklace, or

similar ornaments confected

The teeth of the victims themselves were in many cases inlaid with jade, obsidian or iron pyrites, in tiny discs set into the front of the incisors, and some teeth were also carved into decorative shapes by filling and notching. Such ornament is especially common among the Maya, distant neighbours of Teotihuacan, and this has led to suggestions that the victims were foreign warriors captured in battle.

Professor Cowgill and his Mexican co-director, Ruben Cabrera Castro, do not accept this, pointing out that dental Teotihuacan soldiers, perhaps people of high rank," they say.

pyramid by Mr Saguro Sugiyama, also of Brandeis University, located further mass burial pits underneath the fill of the structure: all of the burials seem to be contemporary with the raising of the Temple of Quetzalcoati in the first of second century AD. One long pit contained at least 12 men, with rich offerings. A curious find was the jaw of a canine, perhaps a coyote: Profesor Cowgill suggests a link with the later Aztec

military orders of eagles, coy-otes and jaguars. He believes that the tomh of an important ruler lies at the heart of the pyramid, which his team hopes to reach by tunnelling next summer. This would be the first royal tomb known at Teotihuacan, and Professor Cowgill suggests that it may also have been the last of the founding dynasty, overthrown by a new political order that eschewed political

Birthdays

TODAY: Dame Mary Cartwright, former Mistress, Girton College, Cambridge, 88; Mr Christopher Cazenove, actor, 43; Lord de Villiers, 77; Lord Glenamara, CH, 76; Mr Bernard Hill, actor, 44; Lord McFadzean, 85; Mr Kerry Packer, chairman, Australian publishing and broadcasting companies, 51; Mr Robert Robinson, broadcaster, 61; Mr Tommy Steele, actor and singer,

former chancellor, Federal Republic of Germany, 75; Miss Frances Crook, director, Howard League for Penal Reform, 36; Lieutenant-Commander I.E. Fraser, VC, 68; Mr Christopher Fry, dramatist, 81; Miss Rosemary Leach, actress, 53; Mr J.C.S. Mott, civil engineer, 62; Miss Annette Page, bellering, 56; Mr Mertyn Rees, MP, 68; Dr Companies, 51; Mr Robert S6; Mr Mertyn Rees, MP, 68; Dr Tommy Steele, actor and singer, 52; Professor W.A.C. Stewart, former vice-chancellor, Keele University, 73; Lady Strange, 60.

TOMORROW: Sir Brian Batsford, illustrator and former MP. 78; Field Marshal Lord Bramall, 65; Herr Willy Brandt, Bishop of Bradford, 56.

Service dinner

A commanding officers' reunion dinner was held on board HMS Fox at Devonport last night before her disposal by sale. Lieutemant-Commander S.A.C. Shipman, Commanding Officer presided. Among those presen

Captains J.A.L. Myres and P.J.E. Chesistre, Commanders C.F. Herrunwahour, P. Willipred and J. W. Page, and Lieutemani-Continuations R. L. Santenth, T. R. Hallpile, C. M. Carrison, M.D. Joseph, D. M. Ives, J.E. Jolly and R.A. Marti.

Today is the last recommended date for posting second-class letters and cards in time for

Last post

Appointments in the Forces ADMIRALS: Sir Julian Coweld - To be First See Lord and Chief of Neval Statt - 25.5.89. BRIGADIER: C.J. PRO DSO OSE Late.

GURGEON COMMANDER (D): N G Daws - Neptune 16.3-89. SURGEON CAPTAIN: R W F Paul. -The Army GENERAL: Sir Robert Pascoe - To be AC MOD, 16.12.88.

AG MOCH, 16.12,88,

REGOADERS: G E Burdett - To be D

MOVA) MOCH, 12.12,88; G W Frield
To be D Dod Frys MOCH, 16.12,88; IS

R Fowler - To be Brig (W) DOR

GLAND 2 MOCH, 12.12,88; I E Le

Quesne - To be Cond Maint NO

GRICONOS, 16.12,88; M D Regan
To be ACOS G2/G5 HQ USCF,

14.12,88; R A SMOTH - TO be Dep

Condet Staff Col., 19.12,88, COLONGE M M APRIM TO MOD (PE), 16.12.8t: D Dr G Broothed -71 MOD 16.12.8t: D Dr G Broothed -71 MOD 16.12.8t: J W Drivey - To MOD 9.12.8t: E A J Gardener - To HP D A CAIRCO, 16.12.8t: V A L Coodhew - To Shar Col. 12.12.8t: S M P Haden - To MOD, 16.12.8t: S M Let - To MoD 16.12.8t: J Mone - To

COLONEL: P L Erington Late KINGS OWN BORDER, 12.12.88.

Honorary appointments Lieutenant General Sir John Waters, late The Gloucestershire Regiment, is appointed Colonel Commandant The Prince of Wales's Division, December 1 1988, in succession

Dr R S Williams has been appointed Honorary Consultant in Medicine to the Army with effect from September 8. He succeeds Dr C L Joiner who retired on 21 May.

Royal Air Force All Vica-Nersisi A T Johnson has been appointed Frinches Medical Officer, RAF Surface Ontarind, with effect from Documber 16. In succession to Air Vica-Marghal C & Simpson, Add COMMODORS: 1D MedFadyer — To MOD 16.12.88 CROUP CAPTAIN: A J Pye - To NATO 12.1288: C M MOOR - To



OBITUARIES

ULANHU

Mongolian political leader who became Vice-President of China

Ulanhu, former Vice President of the People's Republic of China, and the outstanding political leader from among China's many national minor-ities, has died in Beijing at the age of 82.

An aristocrat by blood, he became a revolutionary Communist and then leader of China's Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region. He changed his name in the

1920s from Yun-Tse to Ulanfu (the Wade-Giles spell-ing — with the change to Pinyin the name has become Ulanha) as a tribute both to Lenin, whose family name was Ulyanov (fu, being the Chinese character which transliterates the Russian suf-

Mongolian word for 'red'.
Ulanhu joined the Chinese
Communist Party in 1925,
and after founding the Inner
Mongolian People's Revolutionary party he studied at Sun Yat Sen University in Moscow for five years.

Philip David Whitting, GM, a distinguished collector in Britain of Byzantine coins who was also a gifted teacher who was also a gined teacher of history, died on December 14, aged 85.

From his early manhood Whitting travelled widely in the Near East and the Medi-

terranean and had begun to put together a coin collection

War, he decided to concentrate on Byzantine coins -Byzantinm had been an early interest, frustrated while at Oxford by the discovery that, at that time, no one could teach him the subject.

collection of some 10,000 and its neighbours. It was through this abiding interest that Whitting developed a connection with the Centre for Byzantine Studies at the University of Birmingham It was interrupted only by which he assisted in many war service, first in civil

born on April 8, 1906, and went from Gresham's School. Holt, to the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, before being commissioned in the Royal Artillery. Early in the war he was

fought on throughout the North African campaign, through Alamein to the final phase in Tunisia.

He was conspicuous for his gallantry at Salerno and afterwards at the battles on the Voltumo and Garigliano riv-ers. Brought back home, briefly, he was soon in action Guy Patrick Gregson was again, in the Normandy cam-

COUNTESS HUMANN DOUGLAS REED

Friendships from D-Day Countess Humann, who has died at the age of 86, at Juzye-Mondaye, near Bayeux, will be remembered with love and hospitality of Juaye in time of peace against many difficulties, especially after the death of her husband and advancing years.

Successive British Ambassadors to France, service attaches and other visitors from across the Channel apprecisted her warm welcome, her dignity and style, her sense of humour and last, but not least, the excellent cuisine.

But there was always a special place in her affection for the veterans of "D Plus Two," who had liberated her family.

Foremost among them was Brigadier Sir Alexander Stanier, Welsh Gnards, whom, owing to a semantic approximation of his interpreter, she had mistakenly taken at first for a lancecorporal.

Her love of England and things English was second only to her patriotism.

minorities in China after the People's Republic was formed in 1949, being chairman of the Minorities In Inner Mongolia he was a skilful political manager, balancing the demands of the central government with the interests of the region. He

helped to shape the Party's policy of gradualism towards the non-Chinese peoples. Because of this, and also his monopoly of power and for-mer Soviet connections, he was purped in 1967 during the cultural revolution and was accused of attempting to re-unite Outer and Inner Mongolia under his own

- 4

/44.11.47**%**

leadership. He was rehabilitated in 1973 and regained his former powers until his retirement in April of this year. His promotion to deputy state chairman in 1983, at the age of 77, was seen as the final recognition of his contributions to China and

also as a great compliment to the non-Han minorities.

Collector of Byzantine coins and teacher defence where in 1941 he

ways for some two decades until his health began to fail. In 1970 he gave the coin collection to the Barber Institute at Birmingham and became an honorary associate of the centre in whose teaching the collection plays an important part. In 1971, Whitting's connection with Birmingham was acknowledged in the university's award to him of an honorary

DLitt The younger son of Major Edward Whitting of Uphill in Somerset, he was born on October 13, 1903. He was educated at Bradfield College and St John's College, Oxford. Almost immediately he took up teaching. After three

years at Wellington College he went in 1929 to become, at a surprisingly early age, form-master of the History Eighth at St Paul's School, a post he held until his retirement in

earned the George Medal for gallantry in firefighting during the "hitz" and subsequently as an intelligence officer working with the resistance in Yugoslavia and Greece.
In spite of his hifelong

interest in numismatics it is perhaps more as a school-master that Whitting deserves chiefly to be remembered. At the St Paul's of his day History had already achieved equality of esteem with the classics. The St Paul's History Eighth could thus indule in a concentration of effort which more recent fashions, for breadth at the expense of

depth would no longer permit. This was not intended only to produce future professional historians - though Whitting's pupils included a number of future fellows of the British Academy. For Whitting, knowing one's history was a form of virtue. He never married.

MAJOR-GENERAL "PETER" GREGSON

Imperturbable gunner in two wars paign, and the drive towards

Major-General G. P. "Peter" Gregson, who has died at the age of 82, was a distinguished gunner who won two DSOs and an MC, plus two mentions in despatches and the Croix de Guerre, m a threeyear period of continuous campaigning which took him from Tobruk to the Normandy beaches, via the Salemo landings. He later on to the Western Desert. He

wealth artillery in Korea. Gregson had all the soldier's virtues. He was direct, and straightforward, courageous and imperturbable. He had a robust, uncomplicated view of politics. His wit and cheerfulness were infectious, and as a regimental commander he communicated effortiessly

with his subordinates.

respect by all the officers of 231 (Malta) Brigade, who landed in France on D-Day

and got to know her during the

early weeks of the Normandy

campaign. Their headquarters

was set up in the park of her

Friendships were sealed then, marked by regular re-

unions on the occasion of

every returning June 6.

This slip of a woman had

the courage of a lion and a heart of gold. She dem-onstrated it during the Ger-

man occupation when,

through persistence and

determination, she wrested her husband, Septime, from the chutches of the military police and the ill-famed Fresnes prison, where he had been sent for giving shelter to

an RAF pilot shot down on a

She showed it again during

welcomed dozens of refugees

Amy Freda Lett, of Canterbury, Kent, left estate valued 21 £176,381 net. She left the entire

amnunt to Canterbury Cathedral.

Mr John Philip Victor Hughes,

Air Vice-Marshal Robert Stew-

reconnaissance mission.

Latest wills

family chateau.

involved in the campaign which brought down the Italian empire in the Horn of Africa, and from there went bruk breakout in 1941, and

colonel, but the conclusion of hostilities did not mean the end of active service for Gregson. Drafted to Korea as commander of the Common-wealth Division's artillery in 1952 he was to flex his professional skills again in a skilful handling of the spocharacterized the latter part of

He ended the war as a

the Seine.

created CBE. His final appointment was as GOC 1st Division, Salishury Plain, from 1956 to 1959 when he retired, having been

the conflict. For this he was

He leaves his widow Iris. and their daughter, together with a son of his first marriage to Oriel Lucas-Scudamore.

Head of family firm Douglas Austin Reed, who has died at the age of 85, was the president, former chairman and elder son of the founder of the firm of tailors and outfitters that bears his name.

Reed learnt the trade at other menswear shops in Britain and the United States. He joined Austin Reed as a buyer in 1926 and was appointed a staff director in After wartime service in the

RAFVR, he returned to the husiness in 1946 and became head of the firm on the death of his father in 1954. Under his chairmanship. which lasted for 19 years, the number of retail branches increased and a substantial manufacturing division was

developed. Reed played an active part in the clothing industry's prin-cipal charity, the Cottage Homes, serving on the management committee for

Party Street, St.

many years. His wife, Mary, died in 1973. He is survived by three sons and two daughters.

Loneliness is just one problem And it is a fairly common problem for seafarers away

of the troubles that people bring to us. As a Christian of the troubles that people bring to us. As a constant society working among seafarers we are asked for all kinds of help-spiritual, emotional, social and practical. And we are there, ready to give all the help we can, in all parts of the world. To give this help we depend entirely

from home for months at a time. But it is only one





fix "ov"), and to his Communist beliefs, ulan being the from death in 1936, he arrived
in Yanan the following year
in Yanan the following year where he became an portant figure in the Com-munist stronghold, especially in his role as Dean of the Minorities Institute. He continued to be the

major spokesman for the PHILIP DAVID WHITTING

beginning with the later Roman Empire,
After the Second World

The result was a unique coins of the Byzantine Empire

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICES OF ANNOES COURT OF JUSTICES OF CHANCERY DIVISION COMPANIES COURT OF JUSTICES OF YORK TRAILER HOLDINGS PLC AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Order of the High Court of Justice Court of the Announce of the of the Announce

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
AND
IN THE MATTER OF WACE GROUP
PUBLIC LIBITED COMPANY
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES
ACT 1998
NOTICE IS HEREPY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice Chancilly
Division) dated the 28th day of Novembal
1988 confirming the reduction of the
amount standing to the credit of the Share
Premium Account of the Company by
245.000,000 was registered by the Heasmar of Companies on 1st December 1989.
Dated this 17th day of December 1989.
National Nationards

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given purenant to \$27 of the TRUSTEE ACT, 1920 that any hereby hereby a CLAIM addition or an INTESTEE TO the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose motion, addresses and descriptions are set out below-in hereby recurred to send performs in writing of his claim or interest to the person of persons meritinosed in relation to the specified after which take the satisfact the specified after which take the satisfact the specified after which take the satisfact the specified will be thirthuiled by the personal representatives among the persons and-led thereby having repart only to the

BROCK Else Kathleen of 37 Queensway. Tynemouth, Tyne & West, died on 29th November 1986. Particulars to Jan Guyster & Co.. Bolictions of 40 Great Port-land Street, London WIN SAH, before 20th February, 1989.

SCOEL Jack of 9 Ashdown, Civadon Court, Scoch Common, London Will, who died on 4th Ashud 1988 Particular to Neel Walls & Aprel 17 Nottingham Street, London Wild SRD before 17th February 1989.

CHARLTON Ende Army of 61 king Edward Road. New Barnet. Hartfortishing Date 5AU tited on 11th August 1988. Perficulars to Bescheror Santeys Red: HEIO Solichors of 67/69 Watting Street, London. EC4M 9DD before 21st February, 1989.

HART George Edward, 94 The Street, Feitham, Surrey died 3rd October 1985; Particulars to Martin Lowe & Co., Mint House, 6 Stanley Park Road, Wallington, Surrey SM6 OCU before 20th February 1989

BLACKERRY. Edward Samuel. 71 Hollowood Lana. Hollowood, Wythell, Worcestershipe, died 12th April 1917; barticitary. Aresty-Parties & Co., 68 (1054 Alcester Road South, Mayrode, Britanisheeus, 814 SNG pelore 18th Petruary 1898).

HARDERS, Jacob, Inte of 3 Passmore Car-ders, Bounds Green, London, N11 2PE tited on 14th March 1988, Particulars to S. Eversiey & Co., Solicitors of 206/298 Pentonville Road, London, N1 9NR before

27th February 1969.

20th C. DAVID of 99 Eyre Coart. St Joha's wood. London. NW8 died on the 23rd September 1967. Particulars to Hampin Slowe. Po. Box 450. Rozbarine House. 273/287 Repent Street. London WIA 480. before 19th February 1969.

MENDEL Simon of 6A. Petiticasi Towar. Middleses Street. London Et tied on 15m March. 1969. Particulars to Crappewddis Solicitors of 1 Harley Street. London. WIA 450. before 20th February 1989.

ZNN ANNEOI 67 Mundrury Street. Educate 10 A. A. A. Courte of the Solicitors. The street of the Solicitors of the Solicitors. The street of the Solicitors of the Solicitors of the Solicitors of the Solicitors of the Solicitors. The Solicitors of the S

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PERSONAL

BIRTHS

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espetan : On December 4th 1988, to Christina the Durman) and Andrew, a son, Henry Michael, a brother for

280CKLENERST - On December 15th, to Caroline and David, a gaughter. Olivia. COMMIT - On December 11th 1988, In London, to Floor (new Thomson) and David, a son, Alexander William Francis

MARIAND On December 14th, in Edunbursh, to Abbie and Angus, 6 son, a prother for James. MARTIN On December 14th, to Susan (ride Lawrence) and William, a daughter, Laura.

OLIVIER - On November 50th, to Jame Elizabeth (nes Young) and George, a son, Edward Alexander, a brother for Natty and Johon. RHODES - On December 11th 1988, to Alexandra (née Walley) and David, a on. Joshus Alexander Edward OSERS - On December 13th, to Justita (née de la Rosa) and Riors, a

SEYMOUR - On December 8th, 1988, at The Portland Hospital, London, in Felicity (née. Webber) and James, son, Hugo Frederick James, son, Hugo Frederick James,
WARREN • On November 18th, to
Gave tole Mosenthall and Chris, of
The Boathouse, Wargrave, Berks, a
son, Bradley James Christopher, a
brother for Toby and Dighy.

RUBY ANNIVERSARIES

FROMECLEWETT - On December 18th, 1948, at Epsons, Jerry Proon to Doris Glewett. Now a Imberforce. Goose Lane, Little Haltingbury, nr Bishop's Stortford.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

COPLESTONE BARNELL December 17th 1938, at Leonards Church, Seaford, Joh Elizabeth.

DEATHS

BOULSTRIDGE On December 18th 1988, peacefully at bome, Thomas James, of Droitwich, aged 85 years. Funeral Service at Hampton Lovett Church, near Droitwich, on Wednegday, December 21st at 12.00 moon. Enquires to G. Crump Funeral Disectors, Droitwich 775359.

COOMES On December 15th 1988, at home, Laurie. Funeral service at The Downs Cremanorium, Bear Road, Brighton, on Wednesday, December 21st at 3.50 pm. Floral tributes to E. Carter & Son. or donations to Copper Citif may be sent c/o E. Carter & Son. Funeral Directors. 20, Marine Drive. Rottingdean. Tei: (0273) 303467.

BOD - On December 15th 1988, peacefully at home, Lt. Col. Francis Augustus Sandford (BIII) R.A.P.C. Dearly loved hushand of Mary. Louting father of Caroline and Rosemary, At his request no flowers. Donations if desired to Camusridge Childrens Hospice, Old Rectory. Mitton. Cambridge. Requiem Mass at Our Lady of Compassion Church, Saffron Walden, on Thursday, December 22nd at 11.00 am.

EASTAUDIN On December 16th peacefully at home, Biackmoor, The Right Rev. Cyril, former Bishop of Peterborough. Requiem Mass at Biackmoor on Thursday Detember 22nd at 2.00 pm, Memorial service in Peterborough Cathedral, to be amounced inter. No flowers, donations instead to, St. Lukes Hospital. 14 Fitzroy Square. London W1.

FRENCH - On December 12th 1998, after a short liness, Lynford French, a poet of dustanding merit and loved by all. A wonderful father to Stmeon, Natastas, and husband or Patience French, Church service on December 20th el The Servic Bay Advented, 149-159 trydale Road, London SC16, at 12.45 pm followed by functal at Camberwell Old Cemainry, Forest Hill Road, at 2.30 pm. NYNEE - Belwest December 10th and 12th, suddenly in Mombasa, Kenya, Kevin Purcell aged 57 years, Beloved brother of Pater, Tony and Valerie of

ROWNET - On December 18th 1988, suddenly, Kathleen Eame, much level wife of Tom and mather of leantier and Wendy, Private cremation followed by a remembrance service on Wednesday, December 21st at 29m. St Mars's Church, Oatlands, Weg-bridge, Femily Bowers only.

RYDE-BROAD - On December 14th 1988, peacefully in her steen, in her 88th year, Joyce, beloved mother of Louise and adored grandmentur of Anthony. Alexander and Josephine. Service at Adjershot Park Crematorium, on Thursday December 22nd at 1.30pm. Sprays only please to, E. Finch & Sons LM. 123 High Street Aldershot, Hants.

von VERREN LALIAN - On December 16th, of Chillon House Nursing Home, younger daughter of the late Baranes Versen, door stin of Phillip de Laudo, and of Alexandra, Miranda and Richard Versen, Cremadon private and no flowers, by her own request.

WEISS - On December 12th 1988, at Ascot Nursing Home, Eve, aged 81, wife of the late Roberto Weiss. Funeral at noon on December 20th, at Hoty Trinity Church, Hanley.

WELLAME/SMITE On December 14th. Jilda. Funeral to take piace on Monday. December 19th at 11 am at The West Chapet of Golders Green Crematorium. Flowers to Kenyon's. 49 Martoes Road. London W8 by 9.30am latest. Denations to The Marte Curie Foundation, 9 Belgrave Mews South London. SWIX SEW. Memorial service to be announced in New Year.

WHITTING On December 14th 1989. Philip David G.M. B.A. D.L.M. in his 86th year. Historian and Byzantine numerosalist, formerly master at \$1 Paul's School. Formerly Royal Airforce Mediterranean Air Traffic Control, Fineral at Mortiske Crematorium, Kew Meadows Path. Richmond. at 12.50pm or Thursday December 22nd. No flowers please. Enquires to A Luckelt 01.748 2836.

WHITTY - On Wednesday December 14th, seaceruity in his steep, Harry Ramsden (Barney), Beloved husband of Esse, dearly loved father of Ann and Michael, standather and great grandfather. Cremation private, Memorial service at St. Simon Zeloses (off Shoane Square, SW1) on Wednesday, December 21st, at 2.30 pm. Family Ilowers only.

WOOD On December 15th, peacefully at home. Philippa Anne Isenit, with of Christopher and mother of Edward. Funeral service on Wednesday December 21st at 1,7000, 20 C. Marche Barnes.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

ALEXANDER - Karen and Neigh kenny. December 17th 1983. Lovingly remembered by parents, brothers and sister. COOPER Dame Gladys in joyour memory on the Centenary of her Birthday, December 18th 1886. DAVENPORT - Remembering this day and every day, darling Anne, who died two lung years ago. So greatis missed and dearly loved, Alwaya Dents, Only and Philippa.

colours, 1906 - 1986. MePEAKE - Alan Young, on May 9th 1399 December 18th 1987. Quie Separabit. Agatha. MESTON - Dougall, 2nd Baron of Agra and Dunotter. This day, on his birthday, sadiy missed by his family. SAMESTER - Vernon, December 17th 1986. Dearly loved and remembered always, Peggie.

SAYERS - Dorothy L. On December 17th 1967, 'Her life was in her mind but it was a passionate life of intellectual activity.' (Patrick MC Laughim). Dorothy L. Sayers Society.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A GREAT CHALLENGE **PROFIT** FROM

HUMAN **VALUES**

This headline has appeared here in THE TIMES for last 22 days. What does it mean? It means the launch of a great idea on which I have been working for 19 years. Today, this idea is brought to your attention in detail on page 29 THE TIMES, Read it and think about it...you might want to join me in this

> **FARHAD** HORMOZI

We functione third of all research mot the prevention and cure of center in the UK. Help us by sending a donbtion of making a legicy to (Dept TT(T/TZ) 2. Centron His Terraca. London SMTY SAR. Cancer Research Campaig

Fighting cancer on all fronts.

For coarry elderly in their later years Christmas is a time when they are so often alone - no joy, no 1, laughter, no one to care

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RAGU REUNIONS

is a free service January 1989, to help find long lost friends and relatives.

any members of . the 39 flew the plane

1945 and September 1946. Ken West from their reunion association is complete the line-

EVELYN BLANCHE is looking for any old school mates who went to PLUMSTEAD CENTRAL SCHOOL and were evacuated to

who played principally in the South Wales area during the 1930's and 40's.

the above please contact us on

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STUDENT

BATH Unique restaintent requires young introverse creative chef. Young tests. CQ25 44276 SICYCLE Grifter excellent condition a most Christman off. Calca Coci 109033 Sicanton 812403.



I'M DREAMING OF A HAPPY CHRISTMAS

STUDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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We are looking for **SQUADRON B-26** MARAUDER that between January

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If you have any information about

Unrestricted parising from 1.30 Subtraley at both locations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOOTBALL Programmes send for the Paul Mulles, 102 Palmouth Road Alvastus, Derby.



Brendoncare done care, it ensures that the elderly and frail can still enjoy life and laughter, not only at Christmas but throughout each year.

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SCIENCE REPORT

Linking genes and geography

through humanity's rich reconstruct a few fragments of quite recently in Africa, linguistic beritage will be tem-

to one another are more likely to share more genes than people living in widely scparated areas, with language

the latest issue of the US journal, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, and will need to be reconciled with work reported earlier this year in the same publication. That research was led by the geneticist, Luigi Cavaili-

In it the genetic relationships of people from all over the world were compared with aboriginal languages (rather then recently introduced coloniel languages, such as English), and a strong concordance was found between the main genetic and linguistic divisions of humanity. But close examination revealed a few discrepancies at

the regional level. By coolining their study to a regional rather than a global perspective, Harding and Sokal may have illustrated some of these discrepancies. Many researchers hope to integrate genetics, archaeolony and linguistics to pin down the hirthplace of modern

prehistoric languages. The time seems to be right for such mbitious projects. Recent developments in ge-

netic techniques and powerful computers have made detailed genetic comparisons between large numbers of people tech-nically feasible. These studies produce "family trees" of humanity that can be used to trace human evolution. Adding fossil evidence puts dates on some of the branches of the family trees

Linguists and archaeologists are using increasingly sophisticated methods to get to the roots of modern languages to learn something of what our remote ancestors spoke. The archaeology journal, Antiq-September number to the question of whether changes in language can be inferred from archaeological remains.

That human history is resupposition, but can it be

methods of recognizing lan-guage divergence might fail shows the interdependence of after a tenth of this time. Cavalli-Sforza's work,

replacing older stocks (and their languages) elsewhere in the world. The languages of more ancient people may have been totally supplanted by those spoken by the African

Ant even in a small, linguistically diverse area such as flected in the evolution of a few class. Although the language is a natural and valid genetic affinities between stretched far enough back in of geography, there are still time to the Tower of Babel, let great linguistic differences be-"At first, this goal seems such as the Semitic speaking utterly hopeless", comments Maltese in the Mediterranean, Jared Diamond, of the Univer- and the linguistically isolated sity of California at Los Basques in Spain. These dif-

human history and language. Henry Gee though, ties in with genetic analyses which indicate that Chatter-Times News Service 1986.

Fourth Sunday

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 5 NC.
9.30 M. 11 S EDID. Neese Clim Judio
(Darrate). Are Maris (Byrd). Rev C A
Levie S.16 E. Response (Picchic). O
Radiz Jese (Antiphoni. Three voices
(Attach). Andrey media notice (Tallista
YORK M. 18 S. Response (Picchic). O
Rodiz Jese (Antiphoni. Three voices
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Y. Loosendorel. Jackson in O.
Short Service (Cabonic, Caura J. Toy;
11.30 M. Responses (Lackson): 4 E.
Wood to E. Voic Genils (Neylof).
Canon R Hockies; 7 Carri Service EX
Michael-Beitry).
ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: 8 HC.
Responses (Britis): 10.30 M. Particl
10 E fiel. Rev G Romileder: 11.27 Media
10 E fiel. Rev G Romileder: 11.27 Media
10 Tollestand S. St. 100 (Pint
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TO FIVE PARTS (Westles). Blow out the trumped to Stom Greetson). Rev P Lynn.

WESTIMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC 10 M. Responses Greeding). Bunedictic to B flat Gammoni. Hynn in the Moover of God (Tavasser). Rev 5 Cassistic 11.16 Abbey Elech. Herse Be Bendint: attent Gammoni. Rev P Fergisson: 3 Each Calcineter Gervice (Western). And he de takey (Handel). Rev P France Add Control of the Cassistic Control of the Cassistic Ca

WCZ 11.16 Service of Lessum & CETOS.
ROVAL NAVAL COLLECT CHAPEL.
ROVAL NAVAL COLLECT CHAPEL.
Greenwich. SE10: 8.30 HC: 11.5
Euch. Adam Luy Bounden Orto. The
Ampel Captrie (trad). Rev Of Chaper.
GLIATOS CHAPEL. Peelington Barpicks. Swi: 11. 6 Peelington Barpicks. Swi: 11. 6 Peelington Barpicks. Swi: 11. 6 Peelington Bar11.12 capt. London. Ed3: 9 HC.
11.12 capt. London. Ed3: 9 HC.
11.13 capt. London. Ed3: 9 HC.
11.14 capt. Chapel. Freet Street. Ed4:
8.30 HC: 11.15 HD, Responses (Rose).
Exymmin.F. Freedow in the Lond silvay.
Phytogli. The Makers; 3 Card Service.
ST CLEMENT DANES GRAF Church)
WC2: 9. 12.16 HC: 11 Service of Nine
Lessum & Cards for St Christopher's
Fellowints. Lessons & Carols for St Christopher's Fellowship.
CHAPEL ROYAL Hamping Court Paince 8.30 MC: 11 M. Tocnitings and British to E fish Release to the Lord stway (Purcell) Rev J Bleese: 3.30 Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols On Utches (ADV).

Church Street, SW3: 8, 12 HC: 11 M. prob C E L Thomson: 5.50 Festives of Mine Lessons & Carols.

CHURCH CHURCH, CHILISEA, SW4: 8 HC: 11 S Euch, New S Acient. 5 Gender of Mine Lessons & Carols.

GROSS SW10 R CLARK SW5: 8 Sent to GROSS SW10 R CLARK SW5: 8 Sent to GROSS SW10 R CLARK SW5: 8 Sent to Le Roy Kyne (Thresher), Weslern Wind Mine. (Thresher), Alma Redemphorts Mass: (Thresher), Alma Redemphorts Mass: (Thresher), Rev A W Maries.

YERE.
ALBAN'S, Brooks St. ECI: 9.30
(11 HM, Missa Brovis (Leighton),
Castrell: 5.30 LM.
BRIDE 9, Fleet Street, BC4: 11 M
Luck, Wempleety in O minor, Daries ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street. EC4; 11 M & Luch. Webmiset's in O minor, Daries in E. And I saw a new heaven (Bainton). Canim J Optace 5-30 ES. Carola by candidings.

SWS 10 MC 11 S Ench. Cabbone in F. Jest, 107 of many declaring (Bach). Ray J Ville.

ST GEORGE'S. Hanny's Gentral (Bach). Ray J Ville.

ST GEORGE'S. Hannyer Square. W1: 8-50 HC. 11 S Ench. Misses Braves (Vizional). O for a closer walk with Cod Generated. The Rector: 6 Service of Nine Lessons with Carola.

ST CELSHOTHER. THE PELLES. C Class. ST. CHESH, WC2. 8 1.2 HC. 11 MP. Nev O C. TRYNY: 6 EP; 6.30 Lessons & Carola.

O C Trotor: 6 EP; 6.30 Lemens & Caroli.

ST JAMES'S. Muswell Hill. N10: 8
HC: 11 HC. Rev M Perfect: 6.30 Centol Service. Rev M Burdon: 5.30 Centol Service. Rev M Burdon: 5.51 Centol Service of Nine Lessons & Curoli.

ST JOHP'S. Hode Park Crestont, W2: 6 HC. 10 Parish Each with Sunday School. Rev T Birthard: 6.50 Evening Worship. Rev T Horistin.

ST JOHN'S WOOD CHURCH. Nivet. 8 HC. 9.30 Parish Correntmiete: 11 S. Each. Misses Criss Factor (Pisheong). A Spotiate rose (Howells). Rev A Walter: 6.30 E. Nine Lespons & Caroli. Boddy: 11.15 M. The Vicar: 6.30 Carob.
ST MARY'S. Bourne Screet. 5W1: 9.
9.45. 7 LM: 11 HM, Missa bryots
Statistical Ave Marie Grandmal. Ecocancibes Orlandi. Ft. J. Ollings: 6.15
Advant. Procession & B.
ST MARY ISSONE Marylebone
Road. W1: 8 HC: 11 Euch. Missa A
Quinctue Vocatus (thrub. Hysin to the
Virgin Grandi. Ft. C H. Coder: 6.30
Festival of Nair Lessons & Carob by
Candidate.

Each, Rejoice to the Lord atway (act. Redford), Westron Wyrnie Mass (Tye). This is the record of John (Chibona); \$.15. Festival of Nine Lessons & Carvis.

GT PALL-TS. Wilson Place, SW1: 8, 9

HC: 11 S Euch, Communition Service in A notice of Cathanani, Magazificat in G citameterd. A spotters rose (Howatta). Pr D Harris.

St. Pr. 12 St. Scott, 10 Parally Magazificat, 11 G pp. 12 St. Scott, 10 Parally Magazificat, 11 GM, Miles Villi specification (Victoria), Victor Milescottem (Tallis), Rev A Bobbisson. Video Miraculum (Tuffin), Rev A Robinson, 22LOTES, Miner Street, SWS: 8 HC; 11 Constitution, Darke in F. A6 to Domini Levavi (Fakenberger), O faste 2nd ser (Vangham Williama), Preb J Pearce; 6.20 Carol Service, Rev A Pearce, 517 STEPHEN'S, Licotcoster Road, SW7: 8, 9 LM; 1; HM, Mines Street Le Bien que Pat (Coudimet), Canter Inha (Guerraro), Orietur statio (Handi), Pr J 10 Wert; S Carol Services.

THE ANULUCIATION, Bryanston Street, W1: 11 SM, Mount Libora Daniel (Vandena), Orietur Selin ex Jacob (Handil); 6 LM & B.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOT-LAND, Post Street, SW1: 11 Natively Pagasat: 6.30 Lessons & Carola. CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOT-LAND, Covest Gardes, WC2: 11.15 Appointments

The Rev John E Barnes. Vicar. Little Walsingham w. Orest Walsingham w. Houshing St. Glas. and Secretary to the Discosan Advisory Committee. discosan Advisory Committee. discosan Advisory Committee. discosan St. Advisory Committee. discosan St. Advisory Committee. discosan Annual Property of the Rev Shann A N Darley, Lecturer and Charlain. Bristol Poblechnic, and Battop Castley and Houseway Canon of Bristol De also an Houseway Canon of Bristol Carterian. Same discosa. The Rev Joseph T Davies. Rector, Rose and Carterian. Same discosa. Rector, Rose and Carterian. Penilow and Fronser and Laters. Penilow and Fronser Calmenting. St. John. Christ Church and Fronser Gale. St. James, discosa Cheimsford: to be Vicar. Thereton Bots, same discosa. The Rev Askarah Barrow as be Parish Dearon. Prestwood and Great Hampden, discose Calment of the Review Cheimsford of the Rector. Kridington. St. Peter and St. Paul, Gloces C. Ziord.

The Rev Keith Elwood. Fociar. The Rev Keith Elwood. Fociar.

Church services tomorrow Rev X G Hapher GJU Bervich or run-Lemons & Carola. Warwick Street. W1: B. 10. 12. 4. 6 LM; 11. SM. CHURCH OF OUR LADY. Limon Grove. St. John's Wood: 10.46, Affect of Carola Glands. Sun Octobia. Republic Coll. (Hands). So. 8. 30. 10. 12.16. 4.16. 6.15 LW; 11 HM. Misse L'horz passe (Vindonia). Dezit Aduria Grander, Canille Indon. Stort Guer-rren). Ginneteri, Canible habe in Bion (Guer-pres).

THE ORATORY, Brompton Rosel.

SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass Dirth Marie Ginneter. Associans a longe (Handi).

12.30, 430, 7 Massc; 3,30 V & B.

ST ETHELDSIEDA'S. Eby Place: 11 SM. Westron Wynde Mass (Taverner).

ST MARY'S. Cadosan Street, SW3:

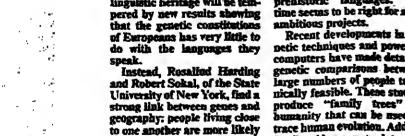
8,30, 10, 11 Mess. O Quart Glorioumn (Victoria). Rorale coeli (Tye), 12,15.

6,30.

Hoar:
KENSINITTON TEMPLE, (Chariematico, Notting Hill Gate, W11: 9, 11
Wynne Lewis: 2.30 Caris Denne: 6,00
Carol Service.
KENSINITTON URC. Allen Street,
WE 11 Nativity piley with Sunday
School: 6.30 Festival of Nine Lessons
& Carola, Ray P Loveit. RECIENT SQUARE PRESSYTERIAN URC, Tavistock Place, WCI: 11 Mr.A Scott: 5 Lessons & Carole, Rev Dr S WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Mathodial), SWI: 11.6.50 (Ceristingle), Rev Dr R J Tudor, WESTMINSTER CHAPEL Bucking-ham GabaSWI: 11.6.30 Rev Dr R T Kendall

Church news

Chaptein to HM Young Offenser Institution. Weitingborough. discoses Peterborough. The Rev Alam R Threadell. Curari, Melton Mowbray, discose Leicaster in the Revtor, Wymondham. Ethnondiscrpe, and Gusthorpe, Buckminter w. Sewitern and Cosjon.
The Rev Christober J S Turnet. Vicar, Christ Chorch, Chadderton, discose Manchester; to be Vicar, St Stephen w St Walistan. Selly Park. discose Bhristingham. The Rev Frank A Wright. Assistant Priest. Newport Pagnell w. Lambury and Mostboa, discose Oxfort to be Teem Vicar, West Sisouch Tamp Ministry, same discose.



playing only a minor role. Their new report appears in

alone the Garden of Eden? Angeles, writing in Nature, ferences reflect remote ling tic and historical origins.

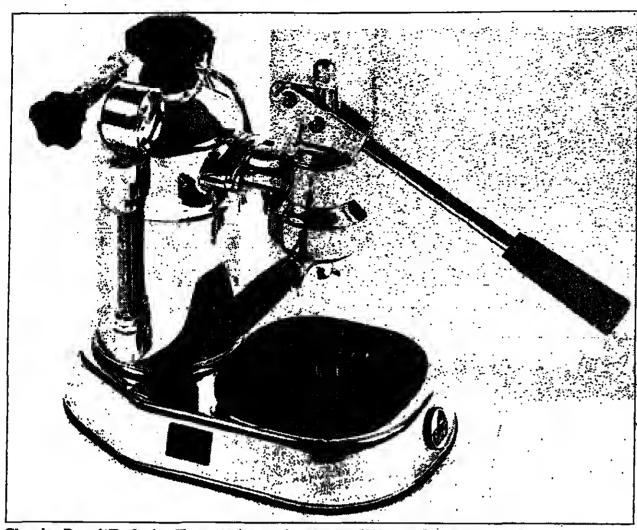
Language might stretch back tic and historical origins.

It is this sort of discreps evolve so last that current that, paradoxically, plagued

It could have been that the evolutionary advantage con-ferred on modern humans by the gift of complex language demise of older stocks such as Neanderthal Man. But methads to classify the 5,000 or so modern spoken languages still lag some way behind tech-niques to elucidate genetic relationships between populations, and despite recent successes it is not surprising that detailed, regional studies such as that of Harding and Sokal throw up more contradictions than solutions.

Europe, research does provide Europeans are largely a result tween some close neighbours, ferences reflect remote linguis-It is this sort of discrepancy

SHOPPING



Gleaming: Pavoni "Professional" espresso/cappuccino machine, £320; Authentics, 42 Shelton Street, London WC2 injum is replaced by stainless

Help him ring in the New Year.

Give him a phone for Christmas.

And the state of t

Grounds for coffee

Now that the ancient art of tea-brewing has been reduced to the dropping of a tea-bag into a mug of boiling water, followed by the squalid ritual of retrieving the bag (by this time oozing brown gunge from every perforation) and the tipping of the horrible item into the waste-disposal unit, it is hardly surprising that teais hardly surprising that teadrinking has gone into decline as a national pastime.

chore with the creative scope that coffee-making offers. Not instant coffee of course, which, despite all the expensive television advertising attempting to convince you to the contrary, is the liquid equivalent of sliced white bread — and is about as romantic - but the honest-togoodness, freshly prepared

You can do it all perfectly well on an open fire with a jng and a spoon, but for those with a mind for it, coffeemaking is like an elaborate sport, such as skiing, in which acquiring the proper equip-ment is most of the point. And, just like skiing the being raised. The kit becomes

To make a cup of coffee you need boiling water, a spoon and a jugso why bother with a £400

espresso machine? Deyan Sudjic looks at the bankable bean

It is perfectly possible to spend more than £400 on a coffee-making machine that is so polished and poised, so mechanically honed, that it is hard to believe that all it does is produce tiny quantities of hot, brown liquid.

For the real coffee fiend, coffee-making is a three act opera. The preinde includes roasting and grinding before the performance really gets under way with percolation. Quite clearly, mere taste is strictly a secondary issue here. It is the physical ritual of pressing buttons and pulling levers that counts.

The sense of connoisseurship that comes from making an effort, and putting on a performance, is also an im-

steel, gas by electricity, and making is never exactly valves by microchip controls. difficult, even with the most high-powered Pavoni machine, but it transforms the most ordinary of occasions into something special with surprisingly little effort. Offering a cup of freshly-made espresso scores as many points as a cordon bleu main course, but is an awful lot easier to

carry off.
What makes coffee-making such promising ground for gadget addicts is the immense variety of methods available. You can choose a method and personal aspirations, or even switch about from one to another. For the briskly eff-



icient, steel-rimmed technocrat there is the well-oiled hi-tech of a Braun percolator hi-tech of a Braun percolator seeping coffee drip by drip with all the precision of a laboratory experiment. Even further off the map on the Tentdnic scale is the Krups (although it has no relation to the Krupp family) — imagine suniglasses from Boeing. Making coffee this way is a process that is specifically designed to show off the cleverness of the machine. Coffee is visibly not machine. Coffee is visibly put boiled at one end of the machine and chased up and down the apparatus to no very



Cassia brass/chrome coffee-maker, £425, Harrods

that launched the whole cofmat jaunched the whole cof-fee-bar boom of the 1950s with the voluptuous curves of its chrome-plated machines.

Their physical presence made them the centre-piece of thou-

sands of Bohemian hang-outs

on Left Banks the world over. It is a tradition which still

survives. The new Emporio

Armani store in London will

open next year with a res-taurant built around a ven-

erable, antique espresso-maker embellished with an

eagle and looking the picture

of carefully-sculptured mech-

anical genius, just like a Bugatti engine.

The Italians tend to make

coffee machines which draw a discreet veil over exactly what is going on inside, but con-

centrate instead on creating a beautiful object. They have always borrowed from art in making coffee machines. Even

the old Mokas bore an uncanny resemblance to Cubist painting. Now the Alessi com-pany is busily turning out ever more rarefied architat-designed coffee-makers. They even have one which has a lid

that looks suspiciously like the

two extremes of Italian ro-

dome of St Paul's.

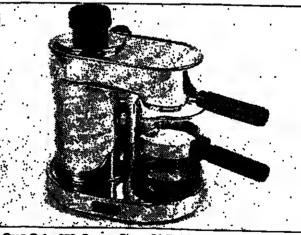
Krups espresso mini coffee-maker, £69.50, Heal's



Braun pre-programmable filter coffee machine, £40, Harrods

At the other extreme is the flamboyant Italian art deco of the Pavoni company; it offers coffee-making for born romance and Tentonic efficiency are the Gallic jug machines, the cafetieres. They demand a separate kettle to boil the water, but they do allow you the curiously satisfying sensation of being able to detonate the plunger to make your

You can't necessarily hurry making a cup of real coffee. The most elaborate I ever had was in somebody's office in New York, where it took a good 20 minutes from start to finish, and involved bubbling hot milk through the coffee, a slice of lemon peel and a sprinkling of cinnamon. But it certainly made all that plink, plink, plink business from the television commercials look mantics. This was the firm pretty hollow.



Gran Gala, £50, Conran Shop, 81 Fulham Road, London SW3

WORD-WATCHING

they escoted."
QUERSPRUNG (c) As skining a jump turn in which a skier bands at right and to the pole or poles, from the German for a diagonal jump.

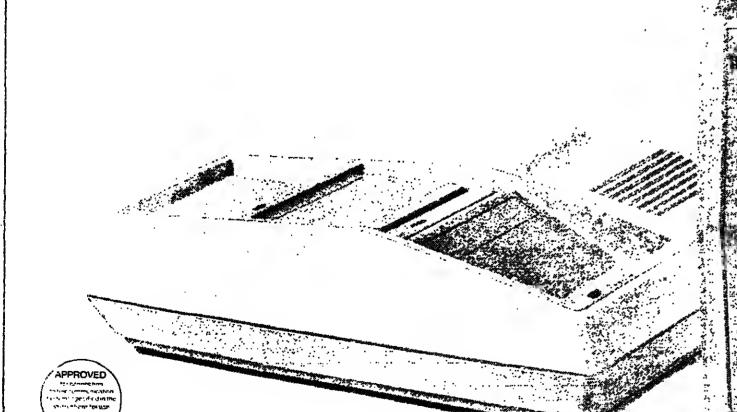


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It's difficult to find a present for the man in your life.

A present that's personal, original and won't be buried in a cupboard by Boxing Day.

An extra phone from British Telecom might be just the thing.

Perhaps a phone extension in his bedroom for those late night calls.

That would be a lot more useful, we think, than the usual aftershave or spotted tie.

And because British Telecom phones are regarded as the most reliable around, he'll

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So nip down to one of our shops, give one of our district sales offices a call, or go to any major electrical retailer and choose bim a phone from around £25.

It's one sure way to avoid those silent nights.

British TELECOM It's you we answer to



Little wonder they don't build cars like they used to. Building a pen is difficult enough.

Oh, the elegant lines of the 1925 Hispano Suiza. Oh, the elegant lines of the 1927 Parker Duofold.

The car may no longer be available, but our centenary has provided a suitable excuse for the return of this favourite Parker pen design.

Like today's top cars the Duofold Centennial's working parts are state-of-the-art. But unlike them, its workmanship is somewhat old fashioned.

Rather than mould the cap and barrel 'en masse,' we machine them as we did in the old days, from a solid block.

Rather than cut the nib from some modern metal, we stay true to gold.

Rather than slit the nib on some new fangled contraption, we still do the job by hand, using a blade no thicker than a human hair.

And just as Hispano Suiza road tested its cars thoroughly after manufacture, each Duofold Centennial is examined by a white gloved inspector. If deemed perfect, it is filled, written with and cleaned before being released for sale.

It is an exhausting way to produce a pen. But, as with the Hispano Suiza, the looks and handling provide ample reward.





Burglary gang spreads motorway terror Continued from page 1 thandoned near a ditch. After the narrangent, the two men

Continued from page 1 abandoned near a ditch. After an argument, the two men were taken into a field doused in petrol and tied up.

The younger man knocked unconscious but his employer was stabbed to death with, it is believed, a machete knife.

The younger man regained consciousness two hours later and struggled across muddy fields to a cottage in Blackman's

There David Gentles, aged was woken by his labrador dog Rachel barking at about 2.45am. He said: "I looked out and saw a guy obviously in distress, screaming, 'Please help me, please help me.

'l rushed downstairs and let him in. He told me his mate had been killed by a gang for arguing".

As police went to the scene. the gang drove the five miles to Oxted, in the Austin Princess, arriving at 4am.

The target was a secluded £500.000 five-bedroom house set in two acres with a swimming pool and tennis court owned by Mr Richard Napier, a retired businessman, and his wife Margaret and their son Timothy, aged 40.
The gang entered the house in Woodhurst Lane through

an unsecured window. The family was woken by the intruders, wearing black balaclavas and believed to be carrying a gun. According to police, a

confrontation took place in the bedroom which left Mr Timothy Napier, fighting for his life from severe stab wounds in East Surrey

The raiders then made their way to the village of Fetcham near Leatherhead 19 miles away and broke into the semidetached home of a divorced teacher and her boy friend by smashing a window.

The couple were tied up and their cars, a white Renault Five and a red Vauxhall Cavalier hatchback were stolen.

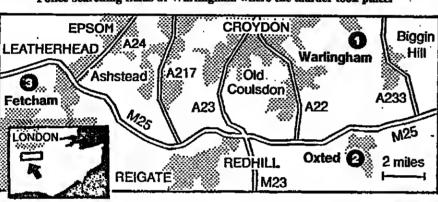
As details of the gang's activities began to circulate London detectives from Croyfrom the Surrey police with the suspects they are hunting for eight attacks since Novem-

They have all taken place at points off the M25 in south London at Coulsdon, Raynes Park, Shirley . Leatherhead and Ashtead.

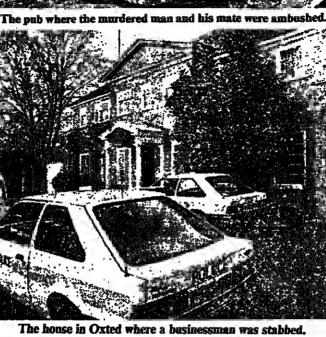
In one attack a woman was raped after the gang broke into



Police searching fields at Warlingham where the murder took place.









The next target in Fetcham; the occupants were tied up.

was announced at 2pm, half an hour before Mr MacGregor went to the Commons to announce the buy-in scheme having been strongly criticised by Labour MPs that morning for disclosing the scheme in a press statement.

Mr MacGregor said he was nol yet in a position to give details of a scheme which would normally have taken weeks to put together, but was working "flat out" with his officials and expected to be able to do so on Monday. He had to clear it with the EEC.

He stressed that the scheme as not an admission of legal liability. It was being in-troduced as "a wholly exceptional measure in view of the present state of the egg market". Sources suggested it would cost several million pounds and last weeks rather

Mr MecGregor specifically repudiated Mrs Currie's unfirst time publicly when he said: "It is not the case that most eggs are infected."

Dr David Clark, Labour's

than months.

Agriculture spokesman, said roughly 15 million surplus eggs were now being laid each day. The only long-term solution was to destroy large numbers of chickens and compensate the farmers.

He welcomed Mrs Currie's resignation as a first step towards restoring public con-fidence but said she should have been sacked two weeks ago. Her "indiscretions will have ruined the lives and livelihoods of many hundreds of egg and poultry producers,"

Several MPs said that had Mrs Currie immediately apologized for her remarks she would not have had to resign. They believed her resignation had been essential to restore

public confidence. Mr Robin Cook, the shadow Health Secretary said: "It's a pity that Mrs Curric has been caught out by going to far. It's a pity that the rest of us are left with the bill for her addled words."

Bul Mr Frank Field, Labour chairman of the all-party Health and Social Services committee, said that it would take "more than rotten eggs from the National Farmers Union to keep Edwina down" and that her departure was a set back for anyone interested in opening up Government.

The Thames Valley Eggs writ issued on Thursday night is to be served on Mrs Currie by post next week, it emerged yesterday. Meanwhile 10 more writs were issued against her at midday yesterday by egg producers claiming "slander of goods, malicious falsehoods and negligent misrepresentatinn". Yet more may follow.

It is thought that the writs will be forwarded by the Department of Health to the Treasury Solicitor's Office on behalf of the Government. Mrs Currie will not be personally habic.

Ministers do not believe the cases will come to court. They believe the writs are a bargaining counter and that the producers would not risk evidence of salmonella in eggs being produced in court.

Mr Keith Pulman, secretary of the British Egg Producers Association, said last night: "Mrs Currie's resignation is the best Christmas present egg producers could have had. We are delighted that she has gone but it is all very well for her to create this mess and walk away when we are still left with the catastrophe."

Bookmakers in battle

Hill also has a very large credit business; well-established oncourse representation and a strong group of shops in the provinces nationwide, whereas our strength in retail betting is in London.

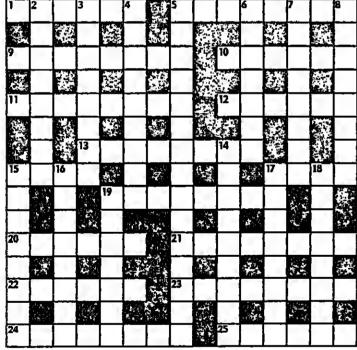
"We will be able to enjoy economies of scale, and create a very strong company. Retail betting is a growing and broadening market, with an increasingly upmarket image and a great future."

William Hills' 10 per cent holding in Satellite Informa-

tion Services - which relays television coverage of racing to betting shops - has been retained by Sears, underlying the strength of future prospects for that company.

Hills will be reviewing the sponsorship policies of both organizations. The William Hill group is the biggest sponsor among bookmakers. supporting the Sprint Championship at York, the Lincolnshire at Doncaster, the Slewards' Cup at Goodwood and the Cambridgeshire at

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17.855



ACROSS

- Trades in many vessels (6). 5 Tea with pastry, say, or Indian
- 9 Some pressure in factory with a
- single retreshment counter (8). 10 Put up stem notice about key 11 Chart sounds a suitable one for
- 12 They show incorrect readings
- 13 Object of archaeological interest it recurs in a Byzantine craft
- 15 Entrance, using commercial with sex appeal (4).
- 17 A new cricket side without a name (4) 19 Erotic dancing -interrupt before
- the end (8) 20 Sort of sun that grows on Billy
- 21 Southern leather works, say? No, Cornish III mine (8). 22 Religion's popular role, accord-

ing to Mary (6).

- 23 A police chief is on drugs (4-4). 24 Clever fellow has been involved
- first with Beatrice (8). 25 Hardly ever depend on an artist

Solution to Puzzle No 17.854

BRACELET FIASCO A PENER NE MARA R.E.PAINITE HIP I E R

Concise crossword, page 38 Solution to Pazzle No 17,849

2 Force to put one means of trans-

3 Fellow totally deflated not to get

4 Journalist in charge of the agony

5 Arsenat in Wales? Not on this

6 Mistake in hoty book? No won-der he's white-faced! (7).

7 Repule secure under ground (8)

8 Soldier carrying sort of rubber

15 Man comes into a tot of money

16 Like the games one improvised

19 Edward followed fielder and in-

dicated where the game was (7).

for devastating device (4.4).

applause (4.4)

column? (3-6).

ground! (7.4.4).

14 Gattanı Maurice! (9).

in maths! (8).

18 Pass repair (8).

INGENUE COLLEG GIOR E TARE

SHEAFFER, A prize of a distinctive Sheafter "Targa" Regency Stripe fountain pen with a solid 14-carci gold inlaid nib will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Sirce, London El 9DD. The winners and solution will be included next Saturday.

THE POUND Bank Buys 222 23.54 69.90 2.28 12.77 7.86 11.30 3.31 285 2455 241 3.745 275 214 11.53 2.79 3.750 1.900 1.900 Bank Sels 2.10 22.14 66.30 12.17 7.46 10.70 8.13 272 13.175 2325 264 3150 1.86 3150 6.8500

London: The FT Index closed up 8.7 at 1436.0 17 Pinned down wreck on a chart

> **WORD-WATCHING** A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct? By Philip Howard

ESCOT a. An Eastern Scot b. To pay for c. A small escort OUERSPRUNG a. Elastic sided b. A style of camp dancing c. A thru at skiing BIRITILL'LO b. A cavalry march

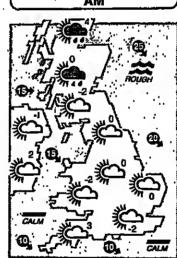
c. 4 violent broubabi MERLON) to enchant or bewilch c. Part of a parapet Answers on page 14

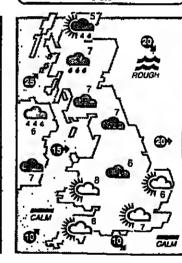
The winners of last Saturday's competition are H L Melior, Gen-Biandford, Dorset; G M Bates, Cheltenham Close, Northolt, Middx; Rev J F Morris, Our Lady's Convent, Park Roud, Loughborough, J Horner, Aysgarth, Slackhead, Münthorpe, Cumbria: A Dingle, Linden Way, London N14.

Bright start to the day over WEATHER ... much of the country with frost over many central and southern areas. It will also remain sunny over central, southern and eastern areas. Scotland will have sunny spells and scattered showers, although rain will read south to cover the whole of Scotland by midnight. Outlook: unsettled, with rain, particularly in the west. ABROAD AROUND BRITAIN

doudy dail of cloudy MANCHESTER HIGHEST & LOWEST LIGHTING-UP TIME YESTERDAY

Penizamae
TOMORROW
London 4.23 pm to 7 33 am
Sristol 4.32 pm to 7 42 am
Edihuruh 4.09 pm to 8 11 am
filanchester 4.20 pm to 7 52 am
Penizamae 4.51 pm to 7.48 am HIGH TIDES AM 7.252 12.46 5.11 12.31 11.15 6.25 18 4.31 8.51 12.36 5.06 8.51 12.33 8.05 5.08 10.15 1.15 11. 5.37 61 12.35 11.52 12.40 5.51 5.38 5.22 12.36 10.17 6.11







Fur be it from us to suggest that the French are not largely responsible for the superior quality of Bordeaux wines.

We merely wish to point out that the English did, in their awn u.a.u. play a part. In medieval times, Burdeaux fell into English hands and its wines were exparted to this country for the first time. Anxious that their countrymen would enjoy the finest of ulues, the English merchants demanded the best of the bunch.

When Calvet Reserve delights your palate. don't give all the credit to the French.

They invisted that any wines to be shipped back to England were matured in out barrels and could he pronounced clairet.

This could only be the case if the aines in question were marrellously clear, and pale red in colour.

The clairer wines soon became known as Clarere. and the fine nines of the Bordeaux region have been referred to as such over since

Hotured in oak barrels for the nears before buttling Calvet Reserve is a vintage claret of such superior tatic that it's clear the old high standards still applie. You non't find it every-

where, but when you do enjoy a glass or two. spare a thought for thuse English merchants of medieval times who elearly had your interests at heart.



CALVET - THE REAL TASTE OF BORDEAUX.

• ANNUITIES: THE GOLDEN AGE 25

Executive Editor David Brewerton

Storehouse new buying by Edelman

Mr Asher Edelman, the Wall Street arbitrageur, is continuing to boy Storehouse shares. Yesterday be disclosed that he had increased his stake in Sir Terence Conran's Storehouse group by 500.000 shares. This brings the total he holds to 21.4 million, or 5.24 per cent, from the 5.12 per cent be recently declared.

The BHS-to-Habitat chain was this month forced to launch an inquiry into who was building up a stake in the business. Last year Storehouse fought off a £2 billion bid from Benlox after receiving a bid approach from Mr Tony Clegg's Mountleigh group.

Beazer sale

Beazer has sold another small chunk of the Pittsburgh-based Koppers group acquired last June. The Koppers science and technology centre, at Monroeville, near Pittsburgh, has been acquired by PPG Industries for \$8 million (£9.9

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1436.0 (+8.7) FT-SE 100 1773.7 (+10.5)

Bargains 19057 USM (Datastream)

146.16 (+0.15) ., 2139.29 (+6.29)* Tekyo Nikkel Average 29536,71 (-169.04)

. 2629.16 (+1.94) 280.2 (+1.9) 1447.1 (–16.2) 1610.6 (+18.5)

FT. Gold Mines 163.1 (-7.6) FT. Fixed Interest 96.15 (+0.16) FT. Govt Secs 86.85 (+0.31)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

DARS SHIPPERS 525p (+10p)
Scholes 256p (+10p)
Tate & Lyle 3077:p (+12p)
Br Building & Eng 391%p (+12p)
Do La Rue 391%p (+12p)
Lauries 537%p (+10p) Enterprise 547%p (+12p) Local London 504p (+15p) Priest Marians 405p (+11p) Ceriton Comm 232%p (+10p) FALLS:

Moss Bros 225p (-10p)
Boosey & Hawkes 220p (-12p)
Henderson Admin 620p (-10p)
Bndpart Grundy 2027;p (-22p)

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 13% 3-month Interbank 13%-131a% 3-month eligible bills:12%-12195;% buying rate
US: Prime Rate 10%%
Federal Funds 8%%*
3-month Treasury Bills 8.17-8.15%*
30-year bonds 99%-99%**

CURRENCIES

London:
£: \$1.8120
£: DM3 1978
£: SwFr2.6890
£: FF10.8992
£: FF20.8992
£: Yen225.14
£: Index:77.7
ECU £0.649616

New York:
£: \$1.8125*
\$: DM1,7625*
\$: SwFr1.4845*
\$: FF6.0240*
\$: Yen124.45*
\$: Index:94.1
SDR £n/a

GOLD

London Fixing: AM \$412.60 pm-\$411.75 closs \$411.50-412.00 [£226.75-225] New York: Comex \$412.40-412.90*

NORTH SEA OIL Brent | Jan) pm \$15.10 bbl Denotes latest trading price



■ Market news on Stockwatch yesterday included: Sears (02092) was 6p higher after the announcement that it would self William Hill to Grand Metropolitan (01027). which shed 1p: Sun Alliance (02119) gained 11p on news from America on insurance premiums: Johnson Mattey (01317), working with Ford on a new calhalytic

convertor, addd Sp. Recent additions include: Bank of Scotland 91. pref 03531: Leisure investment 7% conv pref

188 03532. Cails charged 5p for 8 seconds peak, 12 seconds

acquisition of Plessey shares by the joint bidders was not contrary to EEC antioff peak inc. VAT. competition laws. Any proposed restructuring of Pless-***

Next rises on City hopes of Sears bid

By David Brewerton

The £331 million sale by Sears of the William Hill betting shop chain immediately fired speculation in the City that the move is a prelude to a bid for Next, the troubled High Street stores chain.

Only a week ago Next suffered a boardroom upbeaval when Mr George Davies, the chairman and chief executive and his wife Liz, a director, were dismissed.

Sears, which owns Selfridges and a several other store chains including Saxone, Hornes, Fosters and Dolcis, has long been regarded as a bid target itself. The Fayed. brothers, owners of Harrods and the House of Fraser

group, have a 13 per cent stake in the company. Mr Geoffrey Maitland Smith, Sears' chairman, said: "I cannot say we are not interested (in Next). Outsiders are looking at the two groups, with their mail order interests, and saying 'Good heavens, look at the fit.' We monitor all competitors on a day to day basis, including Next."

Next shares started the day down lp at 130p. Until the announcement of the William Hill purchase by GrandMet, just 700,000 shares had been traded. In active dealings the price later climbed to 137p. By late afternoon more than 2 million shares had changed

William Hill bookmakers to

steady at 6.4 per cent last initiation was unch

month. Department of Em- per cent. But the corres-

ployment figures showed. But the rate seems certain to lop 7 December and January a year

per cent next month, and ago, minus 0.1 per cent and

possibly reach 7.5 per cent. , zero respectively, mean that it

public sector borrowing re- avoid a rise in the inflation

quirement showed that the rate to more than 7 per cent,

billion public sector debt its autumn statement forecast

Separate figures for the will be virtually impossible to

chain to rival Ladbrokes with 1,700 branches.

The deal, which increases both earnings and assets for Sears, is unconditional, in that even if the Office of Fair Trading refers the purchase and it is blocked by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission the sale will stand. GrandMet would have to find a buyer if the deal was

Grand Metropolitan is catapulted into joint market leader by the deal. Earlier this year,

Sir Gordon Borrie, the director general of the Office of Fair Trading, decided not to refer off-course bookmaking to the Monopolies Commission.

Excluded from the latest deal is Sears's 20 per cent stake in Satellite Information Services, as to include it would have required the consent of the other SIS shareholders.

Mr Maitland Smith said the sale comprises the 906 licensed betting offices in Britain and the Belgian betting division which has 370 outlets. The betting operations produced trading profits of £17.5 million in the year to January 31, 1988. The sale will produce an

extraordinary profit of about £310 million, and was struck with Grand Metropolitan after Sears received a number of rival offers,

Unlike Sears, Grand Metroput alongside its existing politan does see betting as part 2p at 133p.

Inflation seems certain

to top 7% next month

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Britain's inflation rate held year, and so the rate of December, and certainly top 7

even without another rise in

The Treasury conceded that

of 6.25 per cent average

of this year was now likely to

be exceeded, and it raised the

forecast to 6.5 per cent.

inflation for the fourth quarter

Mecca Bookmakers creates a of the general retail scene. Mr chain to rival Ladbrokes with Allen Sheppard, chairman and chief executive of GrandMet,

said: "Our intention is to build Grand Metropolitan as a leading multi-outlet retailer in the pub, restaurant, off-licence, optical and betting areas. These businesses all in-

volve retail brand building and professional property management supported by marketing, personnel and sys-tems expertise." Mr Bob Green, chairman of

Mecca Bookmakers who will be chairman of the new combined company, pointed out that they have overseas in-terests "which will now be developed rapidly.
"Grand Metropolitan's bet-

ting operations are now entering a period of rapid growth following the pioneering development of SIS, in which Mecca took a strong lead."

When Grand Metropolitan sold Mecca to its management several years ago, it retained the betting operations. Sears has been considering a

sale of William Hill for many months, but agreed a deal in a matter of days. Mr Maitland Smith said: "When we were offered cash I had to consider, would I go out and buy William Hill if I had £331 million in my hands? It is a very attractive price for us."

GrandMet shares were Ip lower after the announcemen at 431p. Sears rose 5p to 114p after touching 118p. Next shares rose to 135p, closing up

Nigel Richardson, economist

The rise last month was due

to higher home insurance

premiums and the residual

effects of the October mort-

gage rate rise; increases in

meat and canned vegetable

prices, and smaller contribu-

tions from a range of sources.

If mortgage rates rise next year

in line with the latest, Novem-

ber 25, base rate rise, then the

inflation rate could reach 8 per

The PSBR, negative by

£206 million last month, pro-

months of the financial year of

cent in the spring.

at Warburg Securities.



Reason for smiling: Caldecott, left, and Linaker of M&G at the group office at Tower Hill

M&G profits steady

By Colin Campbell

unit trust management group, came through a year when the stock market crashed - and the recovery proved to be painfully slow - with only a modest dip in pre-tax profits from £23.3 million to £23 million for the 12 months to September 30.

Mr Paddy Linaker, M&G's managing director, says, all things considered, the outcome is a creditable performance, even though the 1988 result mars the group's performance in the five years to 1987 when group earoings grew at a compound 44 per cent, M&G is raising its final

years for

KIO to cut

BP stake

By Our City Staff

two years to reduce its

Industry, announced yester-

Mergers Commission in Octo-

ber, can now take place over

three years, rather than the

original period of one year.
The KIO is being required

by the Department of Trade

and Industry to limit its voting rights in BP to 9.9 per

cent during the reduction of its

M&G Group, Britain's largest dividend from 4p to 5p a share, making 8.5p (7p) for the year and saw its shares advance by 7p to 268p. The net asset value at

September 30 slipped to 89.8p a share compared with 90.3p a year earlier. Highlights of the year in-

cluded a 6 per cent increase in the number of unitholder accounts to 402,000 and a rise - against the general trend of 9.6 per cent in management fees generated from invested

Sales of units, at £385 million, down 29 per cent on the previous record year, were investor is any better pro-still the second highest in lected than he was before.

group history. Funds managed by stood at £5.68 hillion at September 30 compared with £6.79 billion. Since the yearend, Mr Alan Bond has sold his 13.44 per cent holding in M&G, a sale which Mr Linaker said made him fcel delighted.

The costs of conforming to the Financial Services Act are estimated at £1.5 million (seltling down to £500,000 on an annual basis) and in his review, Mr Andrew Caldecott, the chairman, questions whether in the wake of the Financial Services Act the

Two extra | Ivory shares stable despite 22% slide By Our City Staff

maintaining its interim divi-dend at 1.25p a share despite a tax line. The Kuwait Investment Office has been given an extra 22 per cent fall in pre-tax profits for the six months shareholding in BP, Lord Young of Graffham, the Secended October 31 from £1.99 million to £1.54 million.

retary of State for Trade and The selback was not unexpected in the aftermath of The reduction in the KIO the 1987 stock market crash, stake in BP from 21.6 per cent and the shares were unto 9.9 per cem, ordered by the changed at 128p. Government following a report by the Monopolies and

At the trading level, profits million to £3.6 million.

Ivory & Sime, the Edinburgh fell from £2.05 million to fund management group in £859,000, but a jump in which Japan's Sumitomo Life has a 14.2 per cent stake, is £67,000 to £810,000) helped

Ivory & Sime has set up a joint venture with Pembroke Management in Canada

Turnover was 6 per cent lower at £4.32 million, while costs - reflecting internal expansion and the requirements of securities industry compliance — rose from £2.59

Mystery bid for Avdel rejected

Banner Industries, the US engineering group, has rejected an anonymous £125 million counterbid for Avdel. the industrial fastening systems producer.

The surprise bid, which lops Banner's own, unwelcome offer by about £6 million. is thought unlikely to succeed because it is conditional on acceptance by Banner, which owns 43 per cent of the Avdel

equity. The rival offer, which follows Avdel's revelation carlier this week that it was holding talks with a third party, was unveiled by Schroders, the merchant bank, on behalf of a client which, in a highly unusual development, preferred to remain anonymous.
It is worth 92p in cash against Banner's hostile 88p offer, and is being recommended by the Avdel board. There was an immediate and angry response from Mr David Hudson of Henry Ansbacher & Co, Banner's

British merchant bank, He said: "We will not accept the offer We believe this is purely a delaying lactic. The reason the buyer has decided not to reveal his identity is that he knows full well that he is not going to win.

"We are not in this for the short term We still want to build the world's largest fastening systems group."

It is, however, thought possible, although unlikely, that the anonymous hidder may waive the acceptance condition or even launch a new The market seemed to dis-

count the chances of success for the counterbid and the shares remained steady at 88p. One City analyst pointed out that it was very unusual for a bidder not to reveal his identity "and this suggests to me that Avdel has not been able to wrap it all up."

It was also argued that Avdel would not be in an enviable position even if it won, with a bostile party accounting for just under half its shares.

Avdel, however, said its main institutional shareholders, including M&G Investment Management, 3i Group, GT Management, and Prolific Unit Trust Management. which together speak for 34,77 per cent of the Avdel shares, welcomed the new mystery

bidder. Mr Tom Howe, of Schroders, speaking on behalf of the anonymous buyer, said he was taking Banner's announcement into account. although he dismissed it as only an initial response.

he month of 0.5 per cent. stronger at 0.5 per cent a repayment for the first eight. This matched the monthly month, and inflation will months of the financial year of the month of 0.5 per cent. increase in November last probably reach 7 per cent for £6.2 billion (£800 million). Denmark may

mortgage rates.

sell air stake The Danish government is considering selling part of its two-sevenths stake in SAS, the

Guvernment was in surplus by

£206 milliun last month, and

is on course for a £12-14

repayment for the full finan-

The index of retail prices

rose from 109.9 (January

1987=100) in October 10

110.0 in November, a rise on

cial year.

Scandinavian airline, as well as privatizing Copenhagen international airport, one of the three main SAS bubs. The plan was unveiled a day after SAS announced that it was buying a 25 per cent stake in Airlines of Britain, the owner of British Midland, for £25 million and developing a consortium which could challeage British Airways, operat-

ing from London's Heathrow,

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

A successful bid for Plessey, the electron-

ics company, by General Electric Com-

pany and Siemens of West Germany

could have a "highly beneficial" effect on

This was argued in the High Court

yesterday, when the case continued in

which Plessey is seeking an injunction to

halt the hostile bid until it has been

vetted by the European Commission in

Brussels. Plessey claims agreements

between the joint hidders would distort

competition within the European Eco-

A decision on the case is expected on

Munday, and whichever side loses it is

Mr Junathan Sumption QC, for GEC

and Siemens, maintained that the hid

does not intringe European anti-competition laws. He told Mr Justice Morritt

that there was binding legal authority to

buck his contention that the mere

expected to go to the Court of Appeal on

nonuc Community.

Distillers trial put off

"The inflation trend is duced a cumulative debt

By Our City Staff

ey's operations would not, in any event,

come into effect until some time after

any takeover. Mr Sumption said. Only a

general approach had been agreed and

there was nothing in the proposals about

sharing out markets or excluding any

participants in the proposed new group

"There is nothing in the agreement

about any concerted anti-competition

GEC and Siemens believed the effect

of the proposals would be to increase

competition at present limited by the

size and national base of the participants.

he said. The combination of research

resources in this field was potentially

"highly beneficial to the European

Mr Sumption further argued that since

none of the restructuring proposals was

imminent the injunction sought by

The only people who could possibly be

financially damaged and therefore have a

cause of action would be Plessey's shareholders. Mr Sumption said damage

to Plessey claimed by the company was

"outstandingly vague." It amounted to a

Plessey could not be justified.

from any field of research.

practice," Mr Sumption said.

community."

Guinness chief executive, and others facing fraud charges connected with the Distillers takeover, have been ad-journed until the New Year.

Mr Justice Henry, sitting at Southwark Crown Court, south London, granted Mr Saunder's barrister, Mr Anthony Shaw, a two-month adjournment to study evidence with an option to apply Bishop's move, page 18 | for a further month if nec-

Legal proceedings against Mr essary. Accused with Mr Ernest Saunders, the former Saunders, aged 51, are Mr Gerald Ronson, chairman of the Heron Corporation; financier. Sir Jack Lyons; Mr Roger Seelig, former Morgan Grenfell corporate finance director: Lord Spens, former head of corporate finance at the Henry Ansbacher Merchant Bank; Mr Anthony Parnes, former stockbroker, and Mr David

Mayhew, senior corporate fi-

nance partner of Cazenove

The announcement, by removing the prospect of a sudden disposal of BP shares by the KIO, boosted the BP

share price. Last night it was up 2p at 259p.

There is speculation that BF could buy in some of its own shares on the proceeds of the sale of its minerals business to RTZ, currently being negotiat-

The three-year period in which the KIO is allowed to reduce its BP stake 10 9.9 per cent will run to October 1991 three years from the publication of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission



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CONSISTENCY STRENGTH EXPERIENCE Proposed Investment

even though there is no precedent for Lawyers expect that if the British court

complaint about the uncertainty surrounding the bid, and uncertainty was involved in any bidding process for a company. The point of Article 85 of the Treaty of Rome was to prevent damage to companies from distortions of com-

petition - not damage arising from a

hostile takeover bid.

If the British courts find for GEC and Siemens there is still a possibility the GEC-Siemens bid might be blocked because the Commission could under its "interim measures" powers halt the bid from proceeding further until the Commission comes to a decision.

There might also be another legal option which could be pursued. It is unlikely in this type of case that leave of appeal would be given to take the present case to the House of Lords. But lawyers in the Plessey camp are also understood to be considering whether an appeal could be made to the European Court,

decision went one way and the Commission's judgment another the case would have to go to the European Court.

Bishop's move puts King in check

which of these he will take up

first, provided he gets them

all, arguing that he wanted to prevent his rivals from mounting a counter strike. In reality he was waiting until the deal with SAS could be

Now, he has his own slots to put into the pot and those of SAS. Together they already have about 40 a day out of Heathrow and with some

spare capacity still existing at the most important inter-national airport in Europe it is

him, with SAS backing, to plan the leap into inter-ecotioental loog baul

Uotil oow Mr Bishop has

fought shy of such a move because of the buge invest-

ment which would be nec-

essary in the right aircraft and

because a newcomer on the

The news that SAS, the Scandinavian airline, had taken a 24.9 per cent stake in British Midland burst like a stun grenade in the Heathrow headquarters of Lord King's British Airways. "It's terrible. They've pulled it off from under our noses right here in our own backyard," one senior executive wailed to anyone who would listen.

In retrospect it was all so obvious, even though for at least six months the men at the top of BA had missed the warning signs.

"What is Michael Bishop up to!" had been one of the most common questions whenever airline chiefs gathered to-gether. Sir Colin Marshall. BA's chief executive, had given warning more than two big airlines left to Europe years ago that the days of the medium-sized airline were numbered. To survive, he predicted, you would either have to be very big or very

Michael Bishop, the quiet but dynamic 46-year-old head of one of the most successful independent airlines to centre of Europe. Europe, was certainly able to see the way the wind was

blowing. His airline had grown steadily until it was trapped in that middle ground - 100 hig to fill the vital niches by providing commuter services and too small to have the muscle to buy aircraft, fuel, engineering and the range of

The surprise link-up between SAS and Michael Bishop's British Midland airline presents a major challenge to Lord King's British Airways

other airline services at a cut price and so force down costs. At the same time Jan Carlzon, president of SAS, had made no secret of his intention of keeping his airline in

His aggressive bid for a stake in British Caledonian showed that his main target was Britain. If he could build up a hub in London he would pull the centre of gravity of his airline further towards the

and he wanted to be one of

Being on the fringes of the community severely limited his potential for growth. There just were not enough Scandinavians to boost his passenger figures and justify the investment which was going to be necessary io the future and not enough Europeans, Americans and Japa-nese wanting to fly to

Scandinavia. Somehow he Bishop has refused to say had to become involved in the heart of the continent.

Through his tie up with British Midland both airlines have achieved exactly what they want. British Midland, now part of the Airlines of Britain Group, will for the first time have a partner with the cash and the power to buy the latest aircraft, to provide the equipment for expansion at the cheapest possible price and, perhaps more im-portantly, get them when they

The main driving force more than enough to enable behind the link-up, bowever, him, with SAS backing, to was the chance of competing plan the leap into interwith British Airways from

British Midland has carefully huilt up a store of vital take-off and landing "slots" from Heathrow and is applying for licences to fly to a further 11 European destinations. So far the canny Mr routes would be swamped by the mega carriers.

Now, with SAS resources behind him and access tothe enormous marketing network built up by the Scandinavian airline with its links around the globe, he feels the time has come to be able to make the new services work.

The two airlines are oot alone in their desire to forge links which will open up new

British Airways wants a stake in Air New Zealand to give it a foothold in the Far Eastern and Pacific markets, Lufthansa is buying into Spain to create a new jointly owned charter airline; Air France has formed a joint venture with Lufthansa 10 operate into Berlin, Alitalia is scouring the world for new pariners, KLM already owns 15 per cent of Air UK and Harry Goodman's Air Europe is oo the way to creating the first genuine pan-European airline by setting up charter subsidiaries in Norway, Italy, France and Germany Airlines of Europe. as Mr Goodman's new consortium will be known, should be in place by next month.

This week's acceptance by the CAA that 24.9 per cent is an acceptable level of foreign investment and fulfils the vague qualification of leaving the airline "substantially" in British hands will clear much busy Far East and American of the confusion surrounding

mergers and international takeovers and could lead to KLM increasing its stake in

All eyes are turned towards
Dan Air. The British carrier is
now isolated in size and shape
with its budding scheduled
services ioto Europe from Gatwick and must be a prime target for foreign investors. The airline clearly needs to rationalize its fleet and buy new equipment trigently and to do so may be tempted to form a link with a richer, larger European carrier.

The Belgian national airline Sabena is also top of the big airlines "hit list".

British Airways could be interested. But for the moment it has to devise a way of combating the new threat which has emerged at its own hub airport. After 1992 British Airmays knows it may fixe Airways knows it may face even more challenges from European airlines and it had boped that by then there would be so few slots available at Heathrow that any such competitioo would have to be based in Stansted.

Now it knows it has been upstaged and out-smarted by the two men most likely to succeed in what is inevitably going to be a decade of cathartie change for the airline

Harvey Elliot

Citicorp's Tokyo securities house to be reorganized

Tokyo (Reuter) - Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers loternational, which is part of Cincorp, is to eliminate fundamental research as well as institutional and equity sales

in Japan and focus on computerized portfolio management in the highly competitive securities market. Mr Masatoshi Yasuda, gen-

eral manager and director of Citicorp's Tokyo investment banking unit, said that 34 people will leave their posts hul no one will be laid off. He said: "We are trimming the activities to improve quality. The structure of our research department is 100

Citicorp Scrimgeour Vic-

oew research unit to offer highly sophisticated computer packages for portfolio dev-elopment and management. Research was important when clients were largely

European. But now the way to make. progress in the competitive Tokyo securities market was to introduce new products for Japanese fund managers, Mr Yasuda explained.

Citicorp Scrimgeour kers employs 180 in Tokyo-The 25-member research team. will be dismantled and the five-member international sales team and the fourmember foreign equity sales team will be redeployed.

French to sell Mrs Fields products

Paris (NY Times) - Rather than invest further in its European operations, the troubled American cookie maker Mrs Fields' Inc. has ticensed the French food con-cern Midial to sell and distribute its products throughout the EEC. Midial has agreed to pay \$5

million (£2.74 million) to sell Mrs Fields products.

It has paid another \$5 million to sell those of La Petite Boulangerie, the bakery chain. It will also buy the four Mrs Fields cookie stores in London at a price which has not yet been negotiated. Midial, a family-owned pri-

vate company headed by M. Philippe Midi, has restructured recently.
It has sold 49 per cent of its

Banania food brand to the and has disposed of its bestknown chocolate brand, Ponlain, for \$158 million, to

Cadbury Schwepps.
Mrs Fields, whose president and chief executive is Mrs Debbi Fields, reported a loss of \$17.7 million, on sales of for the six months that ended \$118 million.



on June 30 of \$15 million, on sales of \$60 million, after closing unprofitable stores in the US

In 1987, it reported earnings

Thorn to sort out EEC pay problem

The Government has called in onded to the intervention. Thorn EMI to tackle a com-board from the Ministry of

A contract has been awarences subsidiary after the January. failure of a system intended to Last m

But food exporters remain deeply concerned about the has been growing for the past

year. The situation has oot im-

reduced, they said yesterday.

The problem centres on the

At one time during The problem centres on the Intervention Board for Agricultural Produce, which pays refunds to British food exporters to compensate for high EEC commodity prices com-pared to those on world

puter crisis which created a Agriculture spent four years 4200 million backlog in payments to British food manusister the refunds. But their £4 ister the refunds. But their £4 million project could oot handle revised procedures inded to Thorn's software sci- troduced by the EEC in-

Last month, the intervenadminister refunds to food tion board decided to aban-exporters under the EEC's don the system and call in the Common Agricultural Policy. private sector to develop a-. replacement.

The decision followed a: backlog in payments which critical report submitted in the summer by consultants from Touche Ross, the accountants.

The situation has oot improved for exporters of processed foods despite has caused serious problems, particularly for small firms. government assurances that But large companies like the backlog is being steadily Rowntree Mackintosh have

"We are not satisfied with the government action so far," said Mr Brian Lawson of the Computer specialists secBiscuit, Cake, Chocolate and Confectionary Alliance.

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

A collapse in profits has hit the shares of Bridport-Gundry,

the Dorset fishing and military nets producer. Pre-tax profits fell from £2.24 million to £870,000 for the year to July 31, despite an increase in turnover from £37.94 million to £38.67 million. The shares fell 25p to 200p on the news, but

The profits drop came from an extraordinary item of £1.698 million relating to losses and possible closure costs at Brownell, the defence-related subsidiary. Earnings per share fell from 13.47p to 5.76p. The final dividend is 5.1p, making

Citer deal

for Scorpion

Cifer, the troubled USM-

quoted manufacturer of com-

buying Scorpion, a computer

software bouse specializing

in accounting applications, for £260,000, including

debts. The deal will be

financed through the issue of

2.3 million shares. Scorpion

made pre-tax profits of £13,600 on turnover of £72,000 for the six months to

end-March.

Reliance interim slips

to increased profitability in that business. Investment in

financial year, completing the first phase of its nationwide

Bridport shares drop

on profits collapse

7p, unchanged from last year.

Forminster, the clothing

manufacturer, reported a

drop in pre-tax profits from

£843,000 to £783,000 on

turnover down from £10

million to £8.55 million for

the six months to October

31. The interim dividend was

raised from 2.5p to 2.75p

though earnings per share slipped from 14.79p to

14.05p. The chairman said

he expected satisfactory re-

sults for the whole year.

Forminster

figures fall

World leader versus a closer focus

wen by the standards of Mr Allen Sheppard, the restless chairman of Grand Metropolitan, this has been a busy week.

Tokyo house ganized

It began with a trip to New York, where he splashed out \$300 million (£164.83 million) raising his hid for Pillsbury, the US food company, to almost \$5.5 billion. Back in London with little but jet lag to show for a series of negotiations with Mr Philip Smith who runs Pillsbury, he was far too basy to sit back.

Pausing only to take delivery of the \$2 billion proceeds from the sale of Intercontinental Hotels, and cast an eye over the latest legal moves to unscramble Pillsbury's poison pill defence, he moved on to the latest in a relentless series of

Japan-Soviet links improve

Tokyo (AP) — The Blakiston fish owl and golden eagle may have unwittingly made a big contribution to Japanese-Soviet relations. The Japanese Government has now ratified a long overdue pact with the Soviet Union on protection of 287 species of migratory birds, and Tokyo hopes the accord will eventually help the two nations resolve their territorial dispute.

The Soviet and Japanese Foreign Ministers plan to exchange ratification documents on the treaty next week. deals, the £331 million purchase of William Hill the both the kind of company that bookmaker, from Sears.

Pillsbury was unusually, the both the kind of company that would help GrandMet along the The William Hill deal is

straight out of the new GrandMet textbook that Mr Sheppard spent a good deal of time devising. He and his board simply wish to be world leaders in food, drinks and retailing. Mecca was always dominated by Ladbroke, its much larger

Putting Mecca and William Hill side by side makes them oint leader in terms of retail betting outlets, though in mar-ket share Ladbroke still has a good margin to spare.

The buzz phrase at Grand-Met these days is "critical mass."Its strategy in the past year has been to part with those parts of its empire that were either not capable of expansion into a leading position in their markets or would, like Inter-continental Hotels, have required a great deal of cash.

The sale of the hotels chain at a high price shrank the core operations from four to three and allowed the group cash resources and management time to concernte its efforts.

The bid for Pillsbury is the classic illustration of the new "critical mass" policy. Mr
Sheppard believes that just as
the drinks business became
increasingly focused on the
development of global brands in the past 10 years, so will the food industry in the next

would help Grand Met along the path to a leading position in the US food industry, and available too. Most of the agonies at the US group stemmed from the dismal and seemingly intractible problems at its Physics table problems at its Burger King subsidiary, second only in the fast food market to Macdanaide

But the group sales of \$6 billion and leading shares of the food manufacturing and retailing market are fertile ground for Mr Shennand for Mr Sheppard. Its brands include Green Giant vegetables, Pillsbury chilled dough and Haagen-Dazs ice cream.

Back in Britain, GrandMet failed with its efforts to prise away the leading Irish whiskey brands from Pernod. They too matched the Sheppard specification every inch, being capable of vastly greater sales in the US.

situation these days since the relaxation of rules which forced retail shops to offer no more than a spartan interior to Where the William Hill deal will lead depends to a large

extent on the response from Mr Cyril Stein, Ladbroke's fiercely competitive chief. But like Ladbroke, Mr Sheppard now has a division which he can expand at home and overseas.

The chairman of Sears, Mr Geoffrey Maitland Smith, sent a cheque for £331 million to the bank yesterday, and allowed himself a smile of self-congratulation. By the time the Sears accounts are ruled off at the end of January, the cheque will have earned nearly £5 million in interest.

The market was not slow to assess the impact of the sale of the William Hill betting chain, and Sears shares, dragged down by the malaise of the retail sector, perked up in minutes from 109p to 115p.

This weekend, Mr Maitland Smith expects to see another round of Sears bid stories, but in the meantime he is in the final stages of focusing the wide empire he inherited.

Until 12.50pm yesterday, Sears had two important businesses outside retailing -betting and housebuilding. Betting has now gone, leaving nnly hnusebuilding (and an interest in Satellite Information Systems) to go before it becomes a "pure" retailer.

The impact of the William Hill sale on Sears is entirely positive. On the balance sheet, Sears has exchanged £8 million of net assets for £331 million of cash, a deal which is a good Friday morning's work for anybody. There will be an extraordinary profit of £310 million after expenses.

Financial gearing, which would have been about 42 per John Bell



Maitland Smith: bid stories

cent at the year-end, will be only 7 per cent. Net assets per share, as stated in Sears doggedly conservative balance sheet, rise by 34 per cent to 87p. Sears does not value brands goodwill or licences: if it did, assets would be wellabove its share price.

On the profit and loss account, the impact is equally favnurable. Out go annual profits of £20 million from betting. In comes £40 million of annual interest on the cash. But even more important,

the deal improves the quality of Sears' earnings beyond measure. Profits from betting are not regarded as high quality by the market: they are volatile, unpredicatable and could disappear overnight if

while turnover increased by

The acquisition-orientated

group, chaired by Professor Roland Smith, made pre-tax profits of £1.4 million com-

pared with £719,000 in the six

Turnover advanced from

£5.59 million to £23.8 million

and the interim dividend has

been increased by 10 per cent from 1.5p to 1.65p. Interest

charges were £139,000 com-

pared with £28,000.

months to September 30.

more than four times.

market share, especially to Ladbrokes, which is now almost as single-minded about betting as Sears is about retailing. It is no coincidence, either, that they both have property as a solid second string, much of Ladbroke's being in the form of hotels.

The market is asking, inevitably, what will happen at Sears after the retrenchment, when both betting and bousebuilding (which also has low market esteem and earnings judged to be poor quality) are gone and has come to the conclusion that Mr Martland Smith will want to expand.

The events of a week ago, when Mr George Davies and his wife Liz were kicked off the board of Next, have set the rumour machine in motion, and even before the sale of William Hill, Sears was earmarked as a possible bidder.

Takeover bids are oot new to Mr Maitland Smith, who a year ago was in the midst of acquiring Freemans, the mail order group. They are, or at least were, an integral part of taknyer expert.

Mr Maitland Smith is, nf course, non-commital about whether he has Next in his sights. "We look at them all", he said. "But outsiders look at the situation and say, good heavens, look at the fit."

of England. Payment is

through the issue of I.4 mil-

lion shares of which the vendors will retain 738,000

and the rest will be placed at 195p each. Last year ESL made £344,000 on turnover of

Professor Roland Smith

said: "Despite the more diffi-

cult economic climate all our

business and their manufac-

turing units are busy at this

time. The spread of business

between office, bank and retail

shopfitting makes us less dependent on any one sector."

£4.38 million.

Reliance Security Group saw pre-tax profits dip from £884,000 to £772,000 in the six months to October 5, and earnings slipped from 5.6p to 4.9p a share. The interim dividend is pegged at 1.5p. The board says the company's core business has strong counter-cylical qualities, but it is well placed to move forward to increased profitchility in that havings and increased profitchility in that the Sears culture under Mr Charles Clore, the legendary

building up national coverage continues and the Leeds office is making good progress with start-up losses contained within budget. Development in Scotland has progressed satisfac-torily and the company anticipates opening there in the new

David Brewerton

Shopfitter soars

100% to £1.4m

By Rosemary Unsworth

Campbell & Armstrong, the quality Wimhledon shop fitter, has doubled profits in the first half pand its presence in the South

Wellman up to £1.26m

Wellman, the ovens, furnace and heating elements group, lifted pre-tax profits from £707,000 to £1.26 million, with earnings per share np from 1.65p to 2.83p, in the six months to September 30. But the group gave a warning that earnings growth may be held back as a result of some recent disposals. The shares rose 0.5p to 43p.

\$6m buy for Amer Group

Amer Group, the Finnish Amer Group, the Finnish consumer goods company, is paying \$6 million (£3.29 million) for the acquisition of Century Paper. a Boston wholesaler of graphic paper. The deal was made through Amer's Chicago-based Hobart/McIntosh paper subsidiary. Century employs 37 people and had net sales of \$21 million last year.

C&W in \$4m venture with Thai companies

A joint venture to provide state of the art digital telecommunications services throughout Thailand has been formed by Cable and Wireless and two Thai organizations,

Sophonpanich and Sriftengfung.

The new company has been awarded a licence to provide domestic data communications services hy satellite for 15 years and will be capitalized at \$4 million, with further investment being planned for network development. C&W will have 40 per cent and the two Thai groups 30 per cent

Bond sells television station for £45m

Perth (Reuter) - Bond Media, Bond Corp's 52 per cent owned subsidiary, is to sell its STW-9 television station in Perth to Sunraysia Television for Aus\$95 million (£44.8

It will also sell nine radio stations to a new company in which it will have a 14.9 per cent stake, it said.

Both moves were forced by the Australian government's cross-media regulations, aimed at preventing a single group holding television, radio and newspapers in any one centre. The Bond group acquired a Perth newspaper when it gained control of the Bell Group and owns the National

Ninc TV network. Sunraysia will sell the STV-8 televisioo statioo in the city of Mildura in north-western Victoria to Bond Media for Aus\$18 million. STW-9 will retain links with the National

M) Fre

problem

The proceeds of the sale of STV-8 will be incorporated in Sunraysia's initial payment of Aus\$55 million to Bond Media. The rest will be paid in

five annual tranches. Both sales are effective from

Bond Media said the radio stations, in Sydney, Mel-bourne, Perth, Darwin and Western Australian regional centres, will be sold to a new

company, John Laws Radio. Mr John Laws, a Sydney radio presenter, will be chairman of John Laws Radio and will have a 14.9 per cent stake.

The remaining 70.2 per cent is expected to be floated on the Australian market.

No sale price for the radio stations was given.

t is not exactly a Merry Christmas in the stock market. A heavy scent of bearishness hangs in the

air which is infected also by

sackings and the woes of brokers and

market-makers starved of business.

Analysis nibble at any scraps of

statistical information that suggest the

Treasury may be regaining some

dropped; he is visibly shaken by the turn of events; and he is not expected

to be at the Treasury much beyond next year's Budget. That does not mean necessarily that his policy of

high interest rates and a strong pound

will not bring inflation down. The

The Chancellor's own stock has

control over inflation.



Von Cramer marries

businessman charged in contheir wedding at Mickle-within our widely-diversified nection with the Barlow thwaite Methodist Church, companies and maintain the

Mr Guy von Cramer, the Deborah Lewis (above) after Clowes collapse, and Miss near Bradford yesterday.

Re-start of Tartan oil production delayed

The North Sea Tartan oil ing Claymore production will field, shut down since a blast not be finished until early in

wrecked the Piper Alpha plat-form on July 7, may not re-start production at the end of this year as hoped, according to the owners and operators Texaco Inc.

preparatory work for re-start- before the explosion.

By Our City Staff

The Claymore platform does not normally have to be in operation for Tartan oil to be pumped ashore hut emer-Tartan oil is pumped to the UK mainland via the Occidental Petroleum Corp operated Claymore field which used by Tartan. The Tartan was also shut down after the field was producing Piper Alpha explosion. But about 30.000 barrels a day

The scent of bears and distant spring

Cash-rich Hanson seeking takeovers

By Our City Staff Hanson's cash, which had reached £3.8 hillion at the year-end of September 30 — compared with £2.98 billion the year before — now exceeds borrowings by more than £1

Lord Hanson, the chairman, said in the annual report, published yesterday, that the industrial conglomerate will use it for acquisitions.

He told shareholders: "When we judge the time to be right, we shall resume growth hy acquisition, including use of our substantial cash

He pointed out that after the Kidde acquisition last year, the industrial conglomerate was 60 per cent geared but now there is no gearing. He said: "We shall continue

to generate organic growth positive cash flow achieved i recent years." He added: "While looking

constantly with great selectivity at further possible acquisitions, our existing businesses continue to grow. We look forward with unbounded enthusiasm to the years ahead."

Sir Gordon White, the chairman of Hanson In-dustries, the American offshoot, said that it was well placed to grasp expansion opportunities - both in terms of capital investment in existing businesses and through acquisitions. However, he gave a warning. "In view of the high prices being paid for companies, we shall continue to exercise great care and selectivity in any purchase."

Campbells is continuing to expand and is buying ESL, a off rail

Henry Boot & Sons, the Sheffield construction and property development group, is selling its rail engineering business, including its Tho-mas W Ward subsidiary, to BICC's Balfour Beatty in a cash deal initially worth £1.5

million. A freehold property option could later generate about £2 million more, while Boot expects to release further cash following the disposal, adding up to a total cash benefit to the company of about £5 million.

Balfour Beatty, which makes rail electrification equipment and is involved in British Rail's East Coast main line electrification, sees the Boot business, which produces and lays rail tracks, as being complementary to its own.

The technical trio at James Capel

believes that no rally (in the FT-SE 100 index) would take the market much above 1,820. A decisive break below 1,720, which might come after the next rally into the 1,800s, would signal the second leg of the bear market. The pit might be avoided, but if not the least from which the perturbation.

if not, the level from which the next bull market would begin is 1,440-1,515, "or more likely 1,228" - 50 per cent from the all-time high. Not much seasonal cheer here! But

whether these projections are right or

wrong I think it would be foolish to

expect the trend of prices to turn up

before the spring since that is the

earliest we can look for unambigu-

ously lower interest rates. That, and a

Boot sells division

Substitution fears unsettle metals market

Platinum plunges to \$522 on Ford research report

By Colin Campbell

price plunged further in nervous trading in world markets yesterday on fears of reduced demand from car manufaclurers for use in exhaust

autocatalysts. cious metals group, says it has been working on the dev-elopment of a non-platinum automobile exhaust catalyst for some time. The announceand led to an immediate rerating nf all associated platinum shares.

main demand factors which have traditionally supported platinum and its price will be rapidly advancing European removed.

A succeessful application by Ford of the cheaper palladium (a member of the platinum family) would lead other world car manufacturers to follow suit, and would encourage other users of plat-inum to step up their research efforts on substitution.

Platinum futures prices in New York fell by their \$25limit to \$579.50 an ounce on fall yesterday.

Prices in London were age, traditionally the second rican platinum interests additionally weaker with the largest category, is forecast at through Western Platinum. Broken Hill Pty profits up

Aus\$218.2 million; depreci-

ation Aus\$399.2 million

against Aus\$378.1 million,

and minorities Aus\$15.3 million against Aus\$14.4 million.

Almost all the growth came

from the steel division, where

The free market platinum precious metal at \$522 an 1.2 million ounces or 33 per ounce in afternoon trading. cent, and though this sector of

Ford, a leading customer of with Ford in its research for Johnson Matthey, the pre- some time, but sought to calm the market hy adding that overall demand for platinum from all other sources remained strong. Mr Eugene Anderson, John-

ment took the platinum mar- son Matthey's chief executive, ket and investors by surprise, said the company's recent interim review of the platinum market took into account the Ford developments, Analysis fear that if experi- and its view of the supplyments proved successful and demand fundamentals for the economic, then one of the short and medium term remain unchanged.

"In the long term, the market coupled with the ex-pected tightening of US emission standards and a greater durability requirement, will ensure a continuing strong demand for platinum," Mr Anderson said.

Of an estimated 1988 West-ern world platinum demand of 3.615 million ounces, up from 1987's demand of 3.29 million ounces, the autocatalyst sector is forecast to account for a net 1.145 million ounces, or 32 per cent.

Technical factors could see the market is expected to further price falls on Monday, according to traders.

Johnson Matthey admitted ment and profitability would that it had been collaborating none the less be seriously dented.

The world's leading suppliers of platinum group metals are South Africa and Russia. But while platinum is mined and refined in association with palladium and other associated metals, South African mines produce the family of metals in the ratio of two thirds platinum to one third palladium. In Russia, the relationship is two thirds palladium to one third platinum. Any significant preference for palladium, rather than

platinum, in autocatalysts would thus have a serious impact nn the profitability of South African mining operatinns. By contrast, Russian operations would benefit. The demand for platinum

group metals and their growth prospects have encouraged increased exploration of South African deposits.

Consolidated Gold Fields through its South African associate, GFSA, is developing the new Northam Platinum Mine. Lonrho, the ullion ounces, or 32 per cent. international trading
Demand for jewellery us- conglomerate, has South Af-

question is at what cost to industry. figures recorded an actual fall) and as Chartists sum it up neatly in figures. firm Wall Street, is the key. employment and profitability - and-GUS and Hanson display defensive armour

here is always (well, almost always) a case for defensive stocks. They are a useful insurance against clever chaps who forecast the level of the market and get it wrong! A defensive stock should offer a good yield, stand on a sound price-earnings ratio and have the backing of a strong balance sheet. The company will be largely in sound, solidly performing businesses,

not fly-by-night enterprises.
Currently I am impressed with two, one for each leg of the stocking, with these excellent qualities: Great Universal Stores (the A shares at 923p yield 4.2 per cent and have a p/c ratio of 8.9) and Hanson (149p, yielding 6.1 per cent and on a p/e of 8.8).

GUS is not the exciting acquisitor it was in the hey-day of Sir Isaac Wolfson. Nor does it have the high profile it did in earlier days. It is run prudently and without song and dance by his son Leonard (Lord Wolfson) who has given GUS a tauter shape and

151 10¹⁰

brought skilfully to the fore those activities in which he himself excels — the fortunes of Next and the fate of George Davies — at the hand infinance and property.

to the Government's standing and his

own reputation as an Exchequer wizard, breathtakingly pulling rapid growth and lower taxes out of his red

The spending public, with yet higher mortgage rates to come in the

new year, may already be drawing in

its borns (the November retail sales

The leader in mail order, the group still derives the hulk of its profits from retailing. In the first half of the current year mail order was hit by the postal strike but the gathering strength of other divisions shone through. Posttax profits from financial services and investment income rose by 13 per cent to £24.8 million and from property by 19 per cent to £12.8 million. With 1,300 freehold and 130 long leasehold properties GUS has one of the outstanding shop and office portfolios in the property business. Burberrys too is an expanding operation, chipping in an extra 10 per cent at £7.4

Net tangible assets are worth about £10 a share and GUS is not short of cash. But its special quality in uncertain times (they could hardly be more uncertain in retailing, witness

cidentally of a former GUS mail order man, David Jones) is its ability to anticipate problems and produce figures others covy. Earnings will increase in 1988-89 and in the year

employers feel the pressures and employees the uncertainties talk of

extravagant pay settlements pushing prices much higher than forecast is too

pessimistic. But if the latest retail and

earnings figures (a slight fall in October to 9 per cent in the rate at

which average earnings are rising) prove misleading, then interest rates will presumably be turned higher.

Interest rates are edging up in the US

and elsewhere in Europe - a trend it is

difficult for us not to follow if the

As I have stressed before, high interest rates, which mean easy mnney

for no risk, do not make for a climate

in which ordinary shares flourish.

pound is to remain strong.

The other point in GUS's favour is the board's determination to buy in up to 15 per cent of the A shares and to repay the B and C preference stocks. This scheme is coming up for a third time, at an extraordinary general meeting. It could not happen at a better time.

Whereas GUS hides its light under a bushel - it has rare dealings with analysts and is not pro-active with the media - Hanson is one of our bestknown, and now most admired, companies. It is also the arch acquisitor and the feeling is that Lord Hanson and Sir Gordon White have in mind one more mega acquisition for which they are currently putting together the financial fire-power. To make a significant impact on earnings they have to buy big. They are also of course astute sellers of businesses, on both sides of the Atlantic. Hanson is not recession proof but it

is financially strong and superbly directed. It produces the goods, takes care of shareholders' interests and it is

Lord Boardman

In my piece last week 1 criticized NatWest and its chairman, Lord Boardman. I referred to him as a "caretaker chairman." I now understand from him that his appointment in 1983 was expected to be for at least five years. I am sorry If this has caused him any embarrassment and accept that during his period of chairman-ship NatWest has become the most profitable bank in the UK.

Thursday following the Ford statement, with a further \$25

despite slump in oil output Australia's biggest industrial profits more than doubled Strait fields by 25,000 barrels a group, Broken Hill Pty, has from Aus\$100.2 million to day because of low world oil prices and what they claim is \$479.1 million to Aus\$523.8

million in the six months to November 30, lifting earnings Aus\$176.4 million to Aus. crude. \$188.5 million but ou profits from 30.6 cents to 41.1 cents a slumped from Aus\$206.9 to further 40,000 barrels a day Aus\$146.1 million. Australian reduction in November, givshare. Sales were Aus\$5.32 oil prices averaged Aus\$17.60 billion against Aus\$5.40

Aus\$27.40 a year earlier. The interim dividend rises BHP says it has stopped from 15 to 17 cents a share, as exporting crude oil from the Bass Strait offshore fields it already disclosed. The net profit is struck after tax of Aus\$294.6 million, against operates with a unit of Exxon Aus\$373.7 million; interest Corp. Aus\$346.I millinn against

fell to 300,000 barrels a day in marginal rate of 77 per cent of November from 396,000 barrels a day m June.

Minerals improved from excessive tax on Australian

This was followed by a ing a total of 65,000 barrels barrel, down from stopped, or nearly 20 per cent of Bass Strait output.

The company said that despite low production costs, some Bass Strait oil currently is uneconomic following the drop in world oil prices and Total Bass Strait production also because it is taxed at a the selling price.

BHP is meeting its oil-The two companies are supply obligations to domestic Australia's major oil productra. In September they cut to a company official, but back production at the Bass exports ceased in September.

Christmas rally under way as fear of interest rate rise eases (AP-Dow Jones) - Prices might lift its discount rate regained most of the heavy losses suffered near the end of interest rates, such as utilities.

rally, which many people thought had gone begging this year, along with hundreds of City jobs, seemed to be getting under way in thin trading

The growing belief that the Government will not have to increase interest rates further to slow down inflationary pressures - economic data this week has suggested that the economy is already responding to higher rates tempted buyers back.

Market-makers were happy to mark prices up at the outset in an effort to drum up some much-needed interest and, although investors' response was slow, they finally plucked up courage and chased prices higher.

One dealer said: "It has been a long time coming, but it looks as though we could have a nice run-up to next week's British trade figures, due on Friday. However, 1 could possibly be a seller on Thursday." Another re-marked that the rise was "just a bit of Christmas windowdressing and I certainly do not

An early gain on Wall Street made dealers even more cheerful after they returned from their seasonal lunches and, as the afternoon progressed, there were no signs

that the recovery would falter. The FT-SE 100 index stood 1).5 points up at 1,774.7 just after 3pm, while the narrower FT 30-share index was 8.5 points to the good at 1,435.8. Gilts moved np £4, encouraged by sterling's steady performance in the face of

higher European interest rates. George Wimpey, one of the largest housebuilders in Britain, provided the market with something to think about as the old story re-emerged that the Grove Charity Trust - which has effective control of the company with a 35 per ceot stake - had been approached by a European property group and was at last ready to sell.

The renewed speculation, which prompted a rise of 10p late on Thursday, intensified and brought a fresh gain of 2p at 259p, after 263p, on a turnover of more than 4 millioo shares.

The Grove Charity Trust reduced its holding from 49.9

New York

lifts ban on

poison pill

defences

By Our City Staff

Britain's corporate raiders will

find Wall Street a tougher

place to do business after a

decision by the New York

state legislature to allow state

registered companies to use

"poison pill" defences in order

Senate and Assembly reverses

a court ruling three months

ago banning poison pills,

which are usually called share-

holder rights plans. The most

common form of this tactic

allows a company to issue

large amounts of new com-

mon stock to existing holders.

often at a large discount, if a

single investor buys a 20 per

cent stake. This makes the cost

of buying a company prohib-

shareholders rights plans for a

temporary period to April 1

next year arises partly from

hostility to the takeover of

Irving Trust Co by the Bank of

Legislative officials said

New York companies had

assumed they had a right to

use poison pills until a state court ruled that under current law all shares of a company

incorporated in New York must be treated equally.

the poison pill is treating shareholders differently. Business groups had argued that

the court's ruling left the New York corporations vulnerable

Only four states - Hawaii, Ohio. Pennsylvania and Wis-

consin — specifically allow poison pills. Officials also

pointed out that poison pill

plans had never actually been

carried out; in effect they

allow companies time to nego-

tiate with an unwanted suitor

Mr Edward Reinfurt, vice

president of the Business Council, said: "To deny New

York iocorporated companies

what is said to be the single

most effective defensive mea-

sure would leave them not

only vulnerable, but also at a

The legislation authorizes

the state's courts, when a

poisoo pill is challenged, to

examine whether the defence

is being used to protect the company and its staff or to further the interests of en-

trenched management. Com-

pany's should also consider

funire potential when review-

ing takeover offers.

competitive disadvantage."

or thwart a takeover effort.

to unwanted takeovers.

But the essential element of

The decision to allow

itively expensive.

New York.

The decision by New York's

to repel bidders.

million shares in May 1986, raising £73 million and the market has believed ever since that it would sell its remaining shares, even though the trust has declared itself to be a long-term committed

Takeover speculation has, therefore, surrounded Wimpey for months and this year reached fever pitch when CH Beazer, the acquisitive West Country builder, revealed a 1.4 per cent stake in the group. But speculators had their bones dashed when it later sold the shares to concentrate on its \$1.7 billion (£992 million) acquisition of Koppers of the US.

A host of would-be predators has been mentioned

ve to raise cigarette prices by \$2.50 per thousand will further widen margins in the US where the group makes nearly half of its tobacco profits, says Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker. BZW also says the shares down 1p at 438p, should start to recover.

since, including Japanese and Australian groups, while Tay-lor Woodrow and RTZ have also been put forward.

However, dealers now believe that a European group possibly a Dutch one which has been active in the British property market recently has struck a deal with the Grove Charity Trust and that stale bulls of the stock will soon be put out of their

When questioned recently as to the likely price a buyer would have to pay for the trust's stake, analysts said that bids would probably have to start at about the 330p level and would climb from there.

Still in the building sector, Walter Lawrence, the housebuilding and construction group, advanced 9p to 120p on revived speculative

Newarthill, the civil engineer and building contractor which trades as Sir Robert McAlpine, increased its stake in WL this year in a move many think was designed to. help flush out another bidder for the company.

force companies to abide by

the competition provisions of

the Treaty of Rome, the

European Commissioo an-

oounced that it had put a balt

to attempts by DPA, the

Danish fur company, to ac-

quire a minority shareholding

DPA, the largest of the

Scandinavian fur auction

houses, and the selling arm of

the Danish Fur Breeders

Association, had attempted to

buy a 35 per cent shareholding

This would have enabled it

to exercise a considerable

influence over the commercial

conduct of its unwelcome

rival in the community's fur

But the Commission ob-

jected to the acquisition, citing

the 1979 Philip Morris ruling by the European Court of Justice, which called on the

Commission to exercise its

in Hudson's Bay and Annings,

its British rival.



Building chief: Clifford Chetwood, of Wimpey 117p on the news as dealers

took the view that the deal

looked a good one for Mr Geoffrey Maitland Smith, the

chairman, before closing 6p

higher at 115p following a turnover of almost 7 million

bid from Delta in 1987, ad-

vanced 10p afresh to 255p as

dealers awaited further bid

Scholes announced last month that it had received an approach and it is believed to

have had protracted but un-

successful discussions with

Emess, the electronics group,

and Asea Brown Boveri, the

Swedish-Swiss electrical en-

However, whispers in the

market suggest that Scholes is

continuing to hold discussions

with Hanson, the cash-rich

conglomerate, which is said to

be on the verge of making

A deal is said to be on the

cards as the acquisition of

Scholes would complement

Hanson's operations in the

electrical accessories market

its Crabtree

17112+6 113

some sort of acquisition.

developments.

gineering group.

tbrough subsidiary.

Hidong Estate Kromagraphic (10p) Metro Radio (110p) Nat Telecom (120p) Planning Research

Nat 1elecom (120p)
Planning Research
Portmirlon Pots (180p)
Resel Telecom (170p)
Riva (110p)
Secure Trust
Unit Group (140p)
Venture Plant

RIGHTS ISSUES

Amercoeur N/P Elect Mach N/P

Hickson N/P Woodingtons N/P

petition proceedings against

the company, was due to

The Commission also an-

nounced its intention to step

up the pressure on national

governments to give prior notification to Brussels of

their intentioo to allocate

grants or loans to industry, as

part of the Commission's

long-term campaign to clamp

down oo illegal government

France, Belgium, Greece,

Italy and Spain were singled

out by the Commission for

repeatedly violating European Economic Community rules by not informing the Brussels

authorities in advance of their

intention to grant aid to

given an ultimatum to im-

prove their notification proce-

dures within the next two

months, or face the prospects of being hauled in front of the

European Court of Justice for

violating the Community's

All five countries have been

national companies.

subsidies.

expire at the end of 1989.

RECENT ISSUES

that English China Clays has decided not to launch another bid for a rival housebuilder, Bryant Holdings, but to go for Walter Lawrence instead.

Stores picked themselves up off the floor on hopes of a lastmiante consumer spending spree before Christmas.

Great Universal Stores, Britain's biggest mail order group, which disappointed the market last week by revealing interim profits below expectations at £162.9 million analysts had been looking for £165 million — recovered 11p

Another extraordinary gen-eral meeting has been called, for January 6, to gain shareholders' approval to purchase up to 14.9 per cent of the A, or non-voting shares. Dealers are hopeful that the January meeting will prove more successful than the last one, in September, when shareholders vetoed the idea. Sears, the owner of Sel-

fridges, surprised the market with its sale of the William Hill betting office operation to Grand Metropolitan, the food and drinks group, for £331 million cash.

Sears immediately touched

EQUITIES

EQUITIES

Apolio Metais (58p)
Apolio Watch (58p)
BMSS (118p)
Betacom (62p)
Betacom (62p)
Betacom (135p)
Brit Steel P/P (80p)
Busirom (135p)
Brit Steel P/P (80p)
Busirom (125p)
Capital Leasing (44p)
Channel Express (70p)
Chieftain Group (82p)
Com-Tek 16 1-(2p)
Darby Group (115p)
Dawsongroup (154p)
EW Fact (84p)
Edinburgh Hibernian (5)
Haennocal (85p)

Bid for stake in UK rival refused

European Commission halts

move by Danish fur trader

From Michael Dynes, Brussels

In its continuing efforts to market dominance. The Com-mission suspending com-

mission wrote to the DPA, threatening it with "interim measures," a means of preventing a company from

proceeding with a proposed action until the Commission

has reached a final decision in

But as a result of a meeting

between the Commission and

the companies involved in the case, "undertakings have now

been given to the effect that

DPA will not proceed with the

commercial arrangements

having the same effect," the

In a separate announce-

ment, the Commission said

that IBM, the United States

computer group, had agreed to an indefinite continuation of

the arrangement reached in

1984, whereby IBM is obliged

to provide basic interface

information about its com-

puter products to its compet-

to strengthen exports to the

UK, their third best export

market, by creating a local

They also see the UK as a

good base from which to

develop exports out of the

UK. Lower wage costs and taxation make the UK attrac-

tive as a key manufacturing

The survey revealed that 80

per cent of companies with

manufacturing operations in

the UK reported good to

excellent returns oo invest-

ment. The same proportion

acquisition or with any other

competition cases.

Commission said.

urities, the broker, bas changed its stance on composite insurances from hold to buy because of the possibility of increased premiums in the US next year, started some strong buying in the sector.

Analysts have recently been taking a more positive view of composites, citing high yields and takeover possibilities as 1992 approach

perennial takeover favourite, Adelaide Steamship owns a 7 per cent stake, rose 5p to 332p on a turnover of nearly 3 million shares.

an official ruling to raise motor premiums in Mass-

Enterprise advanced 11p Scholes Group, the elec-trical products group which staved off a hostile £70 million to 547p and Lasmo 8.5p to 4820 as the market speculated on an imminent £7.50-a-share offer for US. Word is that the Lasmo's 25.2 per cent stake and bid terms will be announced next week.

achusetts, where CU is a big

revealing a near 50 per cent drop in pre-tax profits in the because of a £112 million

Accident added 5p to 859p and Sun Alliance 11p to 962p.

Willis Faber rose 7p to 224p. The group owns a 20.7 per cent stake in Morgan Grenfell, the beleaguered merchant bank, which recently shocked the City by withdrawing from market-making in securities, making 450 people

It is known to want to sell its Morgan Grenfell shares and, if stories circulating that a European bank is ready to bid for the leaner Morgan Grenfell prove correct, Willis Faber will obviously benefit.

Geoffrey Foster

Prices rebound after fears for Emperor Hirohito ease

losses suffered near the end of morning trading to close lower in moderate dealings. Traders and investors started buying as afternooo dealings got under way, having satisfied themselves during lunch that the reports that Emperor Hirohito was near death were

not true. The Nikkei index dropped more than 300 points in the final 20 minutes of the morning when the talk started. But the Bundesbank's decision to raise its Lombard rate and fears the US Federal Reserve

ahead on

firm bonds

(Reuter) - Wall Street shares

showed moderate early gains

related in part to the expiry of

certain futures contracts, fu-

tures options and stock op-

tions, Mr Paul Cantor, a

senior trader with Daiwa,

said. Shares were also helped

by firmness in US bond prices,

Futures traders saw some

The Dow Jones industrial

light buy programmes as the

average was up 5.21 points at 2,138.21 and gaining issues held a slight lead over declin-

ing issues.

Du Pont Co shares rose

after Mr Edgar Woolard, in-

coming chief executive, was

quoted in a report as saying he

would consider selling a large

part of Du Pont's Conoco Inc

Du Pont officials were not

immediately available for

Mr James Wilbur, an an-

alyst at Smith Barney, said the

sale of a stake in Conoco could

benefit Du Pont by reducing

its holdings in the slow-

points to 857/a, Seagram Co, Du Pont's largest shareholder

with 23 per cent, rose 11/8 points to 607/s.

Mr Wilbur said Du Pont,

which bought Conoco for \$6.8

billion (£3.75 billion) in 1981,

could command \$12.5 billion

for the whole unit, including

\$10 billion for the oil and gas business and \$2 billion for

Du Pont shares rose 2

growing oil business.

energy unit, analysts said.

comment.

other traders said.

Commercial Union, the which Mr John Spalvins's Dow edges

There were also reports of

Enterprise from Arco, of the Americans have agreed to bu

Royal, which last month took the market by surprise by first nine months of the year provision to bolster its US outstanding claims reserves, recovered 5p to 386p. General

Among the Lloyd's brokers, Sedgwick gained 5p to 224p. Transamerica holds a 39 per cent stake in the company and free to bid from next

redundant

The Nikkei index of 225 selected issues, which had

rate, the rate the West German central bank charges on secured short-term loans, cou-

Dec 15

WALL STREET **NEW YORK**

down 169.04 points. Declioing issues out-

shed 413 points at its intra-day low at the end of the morning, rebounded during the afternoon to close at 29,536.71,

numbered rising ones by more than two to one - 636 issues fell, 270 rose and 158 were unchanged.

The rise in the Lombard

Federal Reserve might well follow the Bundesbank's move by lifting its discount rate, contributed to declines on Wall Street overnight.

Traders said the fears of higher interest rates reinforced the trend already evident on Thursday, of investors moving out of some of the largecapital issues which led the market's late-November rally and into some of the blue chips. Blue chips, which also got a boost from the firmer dollar, outperformed the market but closed only mixed to

Dec 15

Bk Bosto Bank NY Bankame **CANADIAN PRICES**

HK bank breaks link with Pao

joint shipping business with Sir Yue-kong Pao and is to pay HK\$662 million (£47 million) for a stake in the Crown Colony's container terminal operations.

the world to take a prominent equity stake in a shipping

partners with the Pao family, but shipping in Hong Kong is now a mature and devaluation. now a mature and developed industry. It is therefore appropriate for us to shift the balance between our involvement as equity investors and our role as commercial

The bank is selling 30 per cent of World Maritime and 28 per cent of World Shipping and Investment back to Sir Yue-kong for an undisclosed sum. That will reduce the bank's stakes in the two firms which are holding companies for a number of dry bulk

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank by World-Wide Shipping, Sir is pulling out of a 30-year-old Yue-kong's private company, to 20 per cent. The remaining shares may be sold to the shipping tycoon within one to

colony's container operations

and the bank," said Mr Gray.

Mr Li Ka-shing's Hutchin-

The bank first teamed up with the shipping magnate in 1962 and was one of the first commercial banking groups in

Mr John Gray, Hong Kong Bank executive director, said:

four years.

While shipping is in the doldrums, Hong Kong's port facilities are booming and the

are the busiest in the world. The bank is to buy a 5 per cent stake in Hong Kong International Terminals, the Hutchison Whampoa subsidiary which was earlier this year awarded the contract for

"Hong Kong's port is at the centre of the Crown Colony's commercial life and its expansion is of considerable importance, both for Hong Kong

son Whampoa is to consolidate Terminal Four, Terminal Six, and the new Terminal Seven into a single unit, following which it will hold 80 per cent of the enlarged HIT group, Orient Overseas (Holdings), the shipping company, will own 15 per cent, and the

Tinsley Robor ahead

Tinsley Robor, the printing over rose to £18.02 million and packaging group, had pre-tax profits for the six months to end-September up from 2.15p to 2.55p. There is an interim dividend of 0.75p.

More of what you're looking

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

	Sales A	Culte Mar Jul	Point June April Jul		Series West	Calle May Aug	Pate Steel	
Alid Lyon	420			P#0		38 60	7 16	~~
(*487)		26 42 54 8 23 32 2 11 19 22 25 32 9 12 18	28 32 39	(524)	550 14 600 5 200 11 220 4%	58 60 23 33 9 16 18 22	30 40	18 42 80 15 25 41 11 21 32 5 15
	600	2 11 19	28 32 39 66 68 70		650 14 600 5	9 16	77 60	80
(*161)	148	22 25 32	1% 3 8 6 9 18	Ptidngtos	200 11	18 22	18 12 23 23	15
	150 1	8 23 32 2 11 19 22 25 32 9 12 18 % 8 9 8 12 19 % 5 6 1 2 4	6 9 18 22 24 25 15 18 20 35 35 36 56 55 55	(~196)	240 4%	19 14	40 47	20
Brit Com.	220	% 8 9 8 12 19	15 18 20 35 35 36 56 55 55	Phoney	200 25	5 9 32 30 21 24 12 19	5% 9	11
(*207)	240 1	1 2 4	35 35 36	(216)	220 19	21 24	14 19	21
Brit Steel	150 1 220 240 1 260 5011 30 2	% 1314%	% 1% 9	Contented	240 5%	12 19	5% 9 14 19 29 31	32
(60)	30 2	X 5X 7X	2 3% 9% 10%10%13% % 2 8%	(*152)	160 6	20 21 7 19	9 5 12 15	15
-	220	% 2 2%1	0%10%13%	1	180 1	3 -	30 30	-2
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TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

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creation or consolidation of a which resulted in the Com-Lower wages attract West German investment to UK By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

base.

quisition that could lead to the IBM and the Commission,

Direct investment in United Kingdom by West close to £3.5 billion. The UK location for West German investment in Europe and worldwide is second only to the United States.

More than three-quarters of this investment, which is almost wholly from industrial companies, has arrived this decade following a much slower build-up over the previous three decades, according to a new survey by the German Chamber of Iodustry and Commerce io the UK.

The survey was based on the experience of 326 companies, offshoots of West German enterprises, located in the UK. These represent most of about 48,000 people, includiog manufacturing and sales.

About 65 per cent of those the major and medium-sized with manufacturing bases in West German operations in the UK claimed good to the UK directly employing excellent rates of productivity. West German investment in the UK in 1987 amounted A number of factors lie to £820 million, a surge of 224

favourable.

the which covers a wide range of year before. The 1986 invest-West products and services. One is ment total was £252.7 million, ming a drive by the West Germans a reduction compared with the previous year wheo £343.3 million was invested.

The growth trend is expected to continue, with those West German companies already established in the UK planning more investment. Of those manufacturing in the UK, 95 per cent have expansion plans amounting to about £432 million over the next few

Additionally, 40 per cent of those with a UK sales presence are planning to start production in the UK with investment amounting to reported that labour relations about £458 million.
in the UK were equally

Among the bigs

Among the bigger West German companies with a UK presence are Hoechst, BASF, Beyer and Schering, located in the chemical and pharmaceutical sectors, Sicmens, the electrical company, and Rexroth, O&K and Liebherr, in the mechanical behind the leap in investment, per cent compared with the engineering field.

vessels and tankers managed bank 5 per cent.

ints, Londo, a

First Dealing

Accumulator

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Recovery continues

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began December 12. Dealings end December 23. §Contango day December 28. Settlement day January 9. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

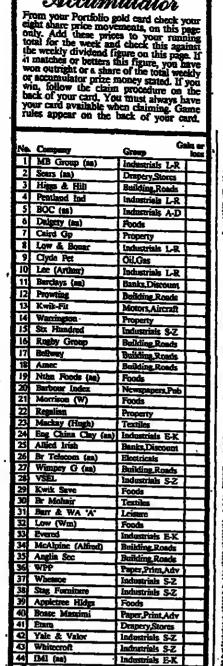
Prices recorded are at 4pm. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (as) denotes Alpha Stocks.

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Edited by Vivien Goldsmith

FAMILY MONEY

Debate over commissions rages on

Would you be put off buying an investment or insurance contract if you knew just how much was going straight into the salesman's pocket? Or would you be more put off to discover that the salesman was a company representative and committed to selling the products of just one company?

This is at the heart of the debate raging over the disclosure of commissions.

At the moment the standard commission rates mean that when you buy a 25-year endowment policy a quarter of the monthly premiums go to the salesman for slightly more than three years. Thereafter 2.5 per cent of the premiums go to the salesman.If

you take out a 20 year pensions contract with a premium of £5,000 a year, £1,250 of the first two premiums will go in commission to the saleman and £125 on the

next eight premiums.

The Securities and Investments
Board unveiled its plans this week of how commissions are to be revealed to the public.

The consumer lobby believes the public has a right to know how much of their money is going to the salesman, but the cost of doing this may be the wining out of the independent financial advice sector, which would not be good news for investors.

At the moment there are more than 30,000 sources of indepenthe branches of the large building societies (with the exception of the Abbey National and Cheltenham & Gloucester), Nat West Bank,

and 9,000 independent firms. While independence is seen as being "a good thing," the climate has changed, so that most people in the financial services industry now believe that it is inevitable that this pool of independent advice will dry np. The Halifax Building Society, for instance, has admitted that it has been talking to several large insurance companies, and the Norwich Union, a founder-member of the Campaign for Independent Financial Advice (Camifa), announced this week

that is to recuit tied agents. The scramble to tie up the independent large and small - is now on.

The SIB blueprint is not as harsh as some independent intermediaries feared. They will not have to talk about the amount of the commission at the time the sale is being made. They will just have to tell clients that this is the method by which they will be paid. And when the product details are sent to the client up to two weeks later, the disclosure will be in terms of the percentage of premiums that go in commission - not absolute amounts.

Tied agents will not have to talk about their payments at all - even though these are likely to be higher

dents. They will have to state clearly that they are tied, but there will be no revelation about the method of payment, although tied agents as opposed to a salesforce are still paid by commission, which is up to one-and-a-half times the rate paid to

This has brought howls of anguish from the independents, who feel that they are being unfairly treated. Mr John Holt of Reading speaks for many when he says that clients are not interested in commission disclosure, and paradoxically that revelation will kill his business.

independents.

"Hard disclosure will drive

arms of the big battalions of insurance companies who wish to sign up tied agents. We shall not stand by and see a lifetime's work destroyed - we shall become a tied agent of one of the hig companies and enjoy 40 per cent additional renumeration with far

less administration costs." The British Insurance Brokers Association, which represents independent brokers, wants to see clients told exactly how much of their premiums will be invested. "It is the end result that matters to them,"says Mr Paul Bland, a BIBA spokesman. "Telling the general investor how much is being paid out in commissions is

firms such as ourselves into the not telling him what he needs to know," This method of disclosure would produce a straight comparison between what is offered by the tied and independent salesman.

SIB rejected any thought of devising a way of forcing companies to reveal the payments package made to tied salesman. They are paid commission, but on top of this they receive training. support with office systems such as computer softwear, advertising and promotional literature. SIB believes that however exhaustive a list of required disclosures, the companies would find other ways of paying them.

Vivien Goldsmith

Anger as Co-op Bank launches new account

The Co-operative Bank fired the starting gun this week in tomers with deposits of £2,500 the race by banks to beat the building societies at the interest-bearing current account

But the hank was immediately attacked by competitors for the unusual way it has chosen to credit interest to the account. The new account, a revamped version of the Cheque & Save account launched in 1982. now has four tiers of interest, ranging from 4.5 per cent on deposits up to £399 to 8.5 per cent on £2,500 and more.

But the Co-op pays those rates only on the amounts in the tier, so a move up the ladder does not bring a better rate on the whole deposit. This is contrary to the practice in

• Cheque & Save is neither fish nor fowl, it presents itself as a savings product but it is not 9

most conventional tiered sav-

Mr John Hutchinson, assistant general manager for per-sonal banking at Lloyds Bank, which is set to launch an interest-bearing current account on January 4, said: This account is neither fish nor fowl. It is presenting itself as a savings product, but it is

Similar criticism came from the Nationwide Anglia Building Society, which sparked off the war over current accounts when it launched its FlexAccount

A spokesman for the society said that the Co-op's account would not necessarily provide a better deal for current account customers than FlexAccount.

For the Co-op, Mr David Fawell retorted that the Nationwide was a better bet only on amounts of between £500 and £700.

The Co-op's system for crediting interest does not make for easy comparison

tomers with deposits of £2,500 or more will be earning four different rates, and some fast work on the calculator would be needed to work out how this actually compares with the same amount deposited

Nevertheless, the Co-op has high hopes for the account. and believes that people will use it to combine savings with every day money

management. It carries all the usual current account services, including a cheque guarantee card, standing order and direct debit facilities. Customers can also overdraw by an average of £200 for seven days a quarter without charge.

"This will allow for a small overdraft each month or indeed a £1,400 overdraft for one day," the bank says.

For those whose average overdraft exceeds the limit there is a charge of £18 for the quarter and interest of 26.8 per cent (annual percentage

The salvos fired by Lloyds and the Nationwide after the wraps were taken off the Coop's scheme are a sign of the mounting competition for current account customers.

Each of the big four clearers is set to launch interestbearing accounts early in the New Year.

Competition is also strong in the savings market. A prediction by the Co-op's marketing men this week that the interest rate scene are still 1989 would be "the year of the uncertain, and it is premature saver" is unlikely to prove to announce new rates. wide of the mark.

op released details of the newlook Cheque & Save, Lloyds Bank made a further move into previously hallowed building society territory by announcing an instant-access savings account with five levels of interest: 6.5 per cent on £1 to £499; 8.3 per cent on £500 to £4,999; 8.6 per cent on £5,000 to £9,999; 8.9 per cent on £10,000 to £24,999 and 9.2

per cent on £25,000 plus. "We intend to meet the competition head-on — both building societies and clearing banks," said Mr David Pirrie, senior general manager, retail banking, at Lloyds.

The new account competes head-on with the tiered rate, instant-access accounts pioneered by building socities. such as the Abbey National's Five Star.

The Abbey also announced a round of interest increases on its accounts this week. The increases, which apply from January 1, vary, with the highest being 0.7 per cent. There is no change in the 5 per cent paid on the society's current account.

Rates on Five-Star now range from 8.4 per cent for deposits of between £500 and £4,999 to 9.25 per cent for £25,000 plus.

• The account will allow for a small overdraft each month, or a £1,400 overdraft for a day 9

No decision has been made by the country's largest society, the Halifax, on its response to the latest jump in the base rate, and none is likely until after Christmas which means that Halifax borrowers may not see a higher mortgage rate until February, although savers' rates could go up before then.

A spokesman for the Halifax said: "The economy and

"We prefer to wait until therefore decide on our new higher investors and mortgage rates early in January."

The spokesman agreed that 1989 would be a tough year for all players in both the savings and mortgage markets. "We are already planning for a highly competitive year on both sides of the balance sheet," he said.

Maria Scott

Mending skiing's bad breaks

Maggie Drummond

reports on ways to insure against bad

times on and off the wintry slopes

If you are one of the thousands of skiers who had to put up with a sludgy brown, rather than a white, Christmas on the slopes last year you might consider the "no-snow" insurance guarantee contained in many package tour bro-chures a bit of a joke.

This is supposed to cover you against the awful eventuality of going off on your much-anticipated — and expensive - skiing holiday, only to find there is no snow to ski on. Typically, the payment offered under a no-snow guarantee will be £20 a head per day if you and your party cannot be transported to ski somewhere else. The trouble is, this guarantee does not seem to work very efficiently. Last season, for instance, hordes of disgruntled begin-ners whose holiday was ruined by the lack of snow found they

day either. This was because there was enough snow on the higher slopes for the experienced skiiers. And the nosnow guarantee does not operate until all the runs and lifts in the resort have been closed. So, if it so happens that

were not entitled to their £20 a

there is no snow in the part where you should be skiing, that is your hard luck. Unless that is your hard luck. Unless everything is shut down you of broken legs and medical cannot claim.

guarantee a decade ago. "It was developed on the basis of disaster for every-body, rather than the individual," he says. "I can't see any other way of organizing it. It would be a nightmare if people could claim because they personally didn't get any skiing. We would have to start

paying out as soon as one run closed." losed." icy across the counter. Fogg Last year, for example, was Travel Insurance (0623



not a great insurance disaster, 313331) and Douglas Cox insurance policy has a 24-hour than huying individual

because most of the resorts managed to keep some runs open although many individuals had minimal sport.

Whatever the inadequacies in this department, however, specialist skiing insurance is absolutely essential for anyone taking to the slopes.

hoiday, costs between £25 and £30 for Europe and double that if you are doing the fashionable thing this year going to the United States to

If you are not going on a package or do not want to take the operator's policy, National Westminster will sell you a Winter Sports Protector Pol-

Tyrie (01-247 8888) are two specialist insurers catering for the independent skier.

The majority of ski insurance claims take the form of medical expenses. And when you look at the policies it is worth enquiring about the technicalities of paying any medical hills. Some insurers expect you to pay the lot on

inconvenient and difficult. More usefully, other insurers can arrange for the bills to be paid direct to the hospital or doctor by the insurance company. All Douglas Cox Tyrie insurance packages include this facility, as does the service offered by Fogg

Travel Another useful feature to look for if you are skiing independently, is whether the emergency telephone line to policies. one of the international medical and repatriation agencies insurance is lamentably inadsuch as Europ Assistance or

Medi Call. travel company representative total cover of £1,000 or more. to help on the spot in a crisis. But they should still check oo the payment requirement. Ski-National Westminster's Winnnot claim.

treatment is expensive — add"No-snow insurance is not ing insult to injury. Most you arrive back home. This double the cost for ordinary larly mean, it has to be said. terribly effective" agrees Mr responsible package tour op- can involve coughing up sev- holiday insurance, but keen with a limit of £200 on any Colin Allum of Fogg Travel crators insist that customers cral hundred or even thouseless who go several times a one item—but the rest are not surrance, the company that take out ski insurance which, sands of pounds at the point of for a typical fortnight's treatment, which can be very bers are doing this—can save find that your cameras, video by buying a policy that covers equipment and all the rest of them for the whole season, the expensive cintter you lug however many ski trips they take. Among these "season tickers" are Flexipack, from Douglas Cox Tyre (£60) and Supaski from Fogg Travel

> And if you are going skiing with the children it is worth asking whether any family - this might work ont cheaper resort.

One area where all holiday equate is the amount you can claim for loss or theft of Package tour skiers, on the personal possessions, alother hand, can expect the though most policies state a

The point to watch is the the expensive ciutter you lug around these days is better covered through the All Risks section of your household insurance policy.

Another point to watch is the amount of cover for your skis, if you take your own on holiday with you. In addition, many policies exclude theft or insurance package is available hreakage of skis you hire in the

Amaf aims for seats on Abbey National board

The pressure group attempting to prevent the Abbey National Building Society's move towards a stock market flotation is trying to unscat key members of the board. Seven of the 16 member

board, including Sir Campbell

Adamson, the chairman, and

Mr Peter Birch, the chief executive, come up for reelection at the next annual meeting in April. Abbey Members Against Flotation has seven candidates willing to oppose the sitting members, and is attempting to collect enough

signatures to have their

150,000 of the Ahbey's 6



million members normally vote in these elections. So Amaf spokesman Mr Alexannominations on the ballot der Sandison believes there is papers. About 100,000 to

enough support to unseat the sitting members. "I should not be surprised if we get the lot on," he said

Amaf is currently collecting the 50 signatures supporting each candidate required to get their names on the election ballot. The deadline for collecting the signatures is the end of the year. The can-didates will then be able to set out their philosophy in a 200-word statement which will be circulated by the Ahbey.

The rebel candidates are Professor Barry Supple, mas-ter of St Catharine's College, Cambridge, Miss Elizabeth Stamp, Oxfam information officer, Professor Robert Pera real possibility of generating ks of Aberdeen University, Mr

University, Mr Alec Leaver, Amar's chairman, Mr Christopher Bazlinton, an editor of housing journals, and Mr Clive Clark, an accountant.

They are all opposed to the Abbey's plan to convert from a mutual building society to a bank with shareholders. But they will find that the unease, felt by many Abbey shareholders, about this change of status

have to be balanced against payout. the greed factor.

Although the terms of the flotation have not yet been announced, it is likely that existing Abbey members will be given some shares in the Abbey, as well as being invited to subscribe for more shares. Those with less than £100 in their accounts at the crucial time and those under 18 years

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of the building society will old can look forward to a cash

So Amaf may find that those opposed to the flotation will reap the rewards before switching to another building society which is maintaining its mutual status.

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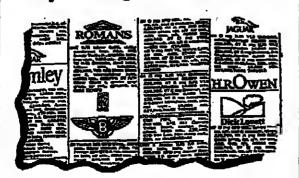
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When the paper is the present

Tired of trudging from one toy shop

to the next? Simon Rose gives

some easier alternatives for Christmas

You could be forgiven for firms are subsidiaries of thinking the only people who conglomerates.
do well out of Christmas are toy and games manufacturers. Kiddicraft, for instance, is part of the Hestair group. So instead of buying your

panies that make them? have lost their appeal.

The toy market is big business. According to the British Toy and Hobby Manufacturers' Association, it was worth £920 million last year and this year is expected to rise to £960

But a look at the labels on toys reveals few British names. Mr Gordon Webb of the association says: "There has been a complete reversal from 10 years ago when 70 per cent of toys sold were made or sourced in this country. At the end of last year 70 per cent were imported from overseas. However, the position apears to be improving. Some British names of the past have

risen from the ashes and, says Mr Webb: "This year there has been a turnaround in British toy manufacturing sales, with a slight dip in imports and a good rise in British production."

But there are few toy and games companies quoted on

which also has interests in children yet more toys, why stationery, mail order, en-not buy them shares in com- gineering and employment ot buy them shares in com-anies that make them? gineering and employment bureaux. Cowan de Groot, Hawthorn Leslie and MY the benefits long after the toys Holdings are others with some toy interests. Even at John Waddington, the board games leader, games account for just 15 per cent of profits. But Mr Victor Watson, Waddington's chairman, says this is a good

year for the board games "From our point of view, this is good news. People have turned to more stable and sensible things. We are having a good year."
Tried and trusted Wadding-

ton products such as Monopoly and Chedo are doing well. Sales of their Subbuteo table football games are up 30 per cent - in cash terms it even does better than Monopoly. "Dinosaurs are also very popular at the moment," Mr

Watson says, "as is our game Lost Valley of the Dinosaurs. Magic is also in, so we have a game called Bewitched selling One of the main companies in the field is Fergabrook, the Rainbow toy group which

Talking profits: Richard King, Fergabrook chairman, with Baby Talk and Count Duckula

into it and it received a capital

Mr Richard King, the chairman, says: "Our range is improving dramatically."

Among Fergabrook's best-sellers this Christmas are Micro Machines - for which Rainbow is the distributor recently went through turbu-lent times. Harlesden In-the top boy's toy in the US at son's views. the stock market as many dustries, which makes the moment and which have

Wembley balls, was reversed sold 100 million vehicles characters are not as imworldwide: Baby-talk - "the most intelligent talking doll in the world"; Secret Army Supplies, weapons and accessories traditional toys, and more that conceal other weapons within them: a disco unit; and Count Duckula, based on the television series of the vampire vegetarian duck.

Mr King echoes Mr Wat-"On the whole, television

portant as they were just a couple of years back. There has been quite a return to conventional games are also

doing well this year."

Apart from Triangle Trust, in which Triang is being rationalized, the quoted toy companies are all on the Unlisted Securities Market.

phans or children. It is still He is very bullish on Hornby, which makes trains, Scalextric, and other toys. "It is trading well, and bearing in mind that Charterhall has a 20 per cent stake, the upside potential is considerable with

The USM Magazine, gave a breakdown on their value as

He acknowledges that "for

the first time in four years, the

story that Fergabrook is about

to be turned round rings true. But as a penny stock, it may

not be one for widows, or-

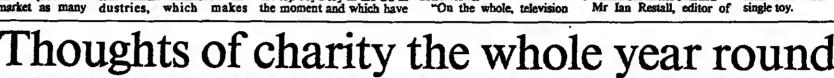
prospective investments.

taken over in 1989." Scrif Cowells manufactures Trivial Pursuit under licence. Mr Restall says: "It is still selling like hot cakes, with various derivative products. A game based on the BBC's Antiques Road Show is tipped to become a best-seller. Serif Cowells has fantastic

a good chance Hornby will be

prospects."
Bluebird makes products that sell well, such as the Big Yellow Teapot, the A la Carte Kitchen and Penny's Big House Set. This is a super company, the Fisher-Price of the UK. But it is going nowhere this year, as a couple of acquisitions are being bed-

This quartet will be joined in January by Cassidy of Blackpool, which makes miniature appliances such as washing machines and numble driers. Its Electrolux vacuum cleaner has sold more through mail order than any other



signing our greetings cards in the knowledge that while we are wishing our friends the compliments of the season, we are also helping our favourite charity.

Charity Christmas cards are big business - more than a quarter of the population will be sending them this year. However, the sad truth is that for charities they are an expensive and often inefficient way of raising money.

"Well-organized fund-raisers can expect about a third of the revenue from the cards they sell to go to their charity," says Miss Hilary Blume of the Charities Advisory Trust, "but some more inexperienced, smaller charities have even been known to make losses." In reality, although we all have

charitable thoughts at Christmas, it is actually a very bad time to ask us for money, says Miss Binne, "because people have so many other expenses at this time of the year." However, there are now several

ways one can give to charity when one's finances have recovered from the festivities. One option is to include donations

in the weekly or monthly budget by joining a Give as you earn scheme.

Anyone receiving pay or a pension through PAYE can join. To date, more than 65,000 employees have used the scheme, donating about £4

All you have to do is to fill in a form on which you can agree to give anything from 25p a week up to £240 a year to the charity of your choice. The donation will be deducted from your salary. If you elect to give, for example, £10 a month, it will actually cost only £7.50 because the taxman will not take the £2.50 doe (at the basic rate), which will also go to the charity.

companies operate Give as-you carn schemes. If your employer does not have the appropriate form, you can still participate — and shake your company into action - by applying to the Charities Aid Foundation, which operates direct.

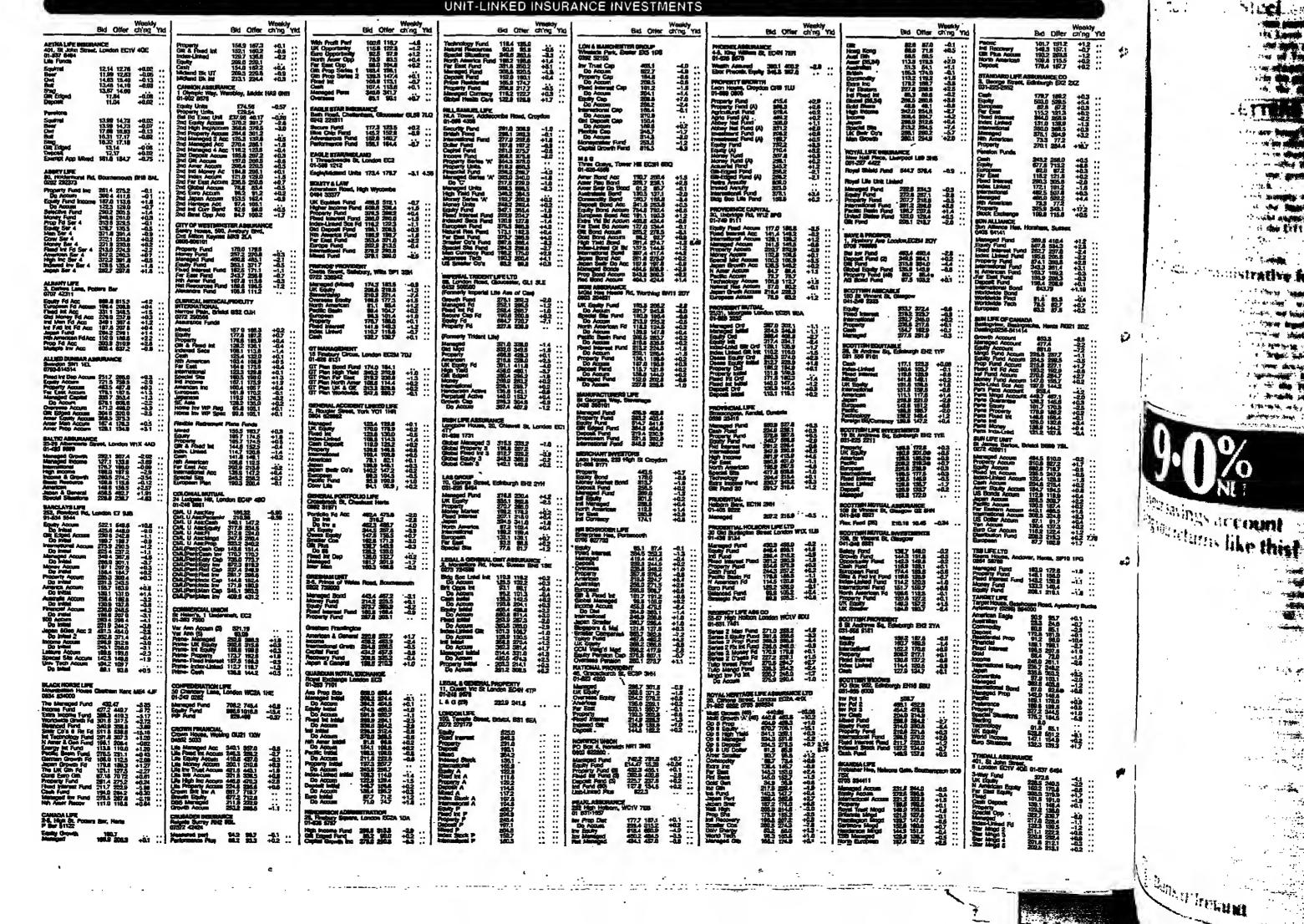
If you would rather give a lump sum, the most tax efficient way is by signing a deed of covenant. Many charities have their own standard forms on which you agree to pay the charity a certain amount a year for a m of three years.

For those who do not wish to About half the top 100 companies, donate all their gifts to just one

voncher system. This means that instead of signing a deed of covenant with a particular charity you sign one with the CAF. It will then issue you with a personalized book of vouchers. You can then write a "cheque" to any charity you choose.

Lastly it is worth remembering that no capital gains tax is payable on a gift to a charity. More information is available from the Charities Aid Foundation, 18 Doughty Street, London WC1, or Give-49-you-earn: Tel: 0898 888000.

Hilary Doling





Bonus is bad news for some

Norwich Union and Commer cial Union started the bonus declaration round this week by announcing increased bo-nuses for longer-term plans but not such good news for those with shorter-term

Maturing 10-year policies with the Norwich Union receive an unchanged payout, while those from Commercial Union suffer a 2 per cent cut compared with last year. This reflects increased charges

brought in 10 years ago. On 15-year policies, the payout from Norwich Union is up by 5 per cent and that from CU up by 2 per cent.

Policies with a 25-year term the standard used to back a mortgage, had a 7 per cent boost from Norwich Union and a 9 per cent boost from

The two life offices have very different approaches to paying out the bonuses. Withprofits policies attract an annual bonus which rolls up with the maturing policy, and a fluctuating terminal bonus

wben the policy matures. Commercial Union boasts that only a relatively small percentage of the total payout - between 20 and 26 per cent - is composed of the vulnerable terminal bonus. But Norwich Union policyholders receive 41 per cent of their total payout as a terminal

Although a degree of certainty is important, what really counts is the absolute payouts. A 29-year-old man who had taken out a £100-ayear, 25-year endowment policy with Norwich Union would see the mature policy paying out a total of £15,620 while the Commercial Union policy would pay out £14,979.

The industry average is £11.390, while 10 companies would have paid out less than £9,000, including Australian Mutual Provident, Britannic, London & Manchester, Sentinel Life and at the bottom of list Confederation Life with a payout of just £4,831.

Digby Larner assesses the types of retirement schemes

Golden age for annuities

All new-style personal pension plans, and some old ones, provide a fund on retirement which the pensioner uses to buy an annuity. It is this annuity — the promise of a set income for life — that provides

the actual retirement income.
"With the current high level of interest rates, now is one of the best times to buy annu-ities," says Mr Roger Bence, director of personal financial planning at Fleming Montagu

Stanley, the stockbroker.

"All investors over the age of 65 ought now to be considering investing a part of their investments in annuities, to secure a high level of income for life," he added.

But mostly people buy annuities with their pension fund on retirement. The company which has provided the pension scheme will also be able to offer an annuity. But since July, when new pensions legislation came into force, most personal pensions allow one to choose an annuity from

any insurance company offering the best deal.

All very well in principle
but, as Mr Tom Nelson of
Mildenhall, Suffolk, has found
out, not so straightforward in practice. He has two Section 226 money purchase plans with Equitable Life and Clerical Medical.

Mr Nelson is a self-employed agricultural merchant who is thinking of retiring next year. He would like to secure the best deal for his money and has approached each of the companies he is investing with for advice. But product providers are now constrained by the terms of the Financial Services Act. Since April 29 this year the only people who can advise on

Immediate Annuities - Purchase Price £10,000

. Illimediate M	INVIDES -	Lacitase Line Tiolog				
Female Age 60	Annuity (2)	Male Age 60	Annuity (E)			
Crusader	1194.00	Equitable Life	1304.30			
Providence Capitol	1188.80	RNPF Nurses	1302.64			
Equitable Life	1188.40	Providence Capitol	1301.40			
Canada Life	1175.95	Crusader	1287.00			
Scottish Equitable	1172.00	Scottish Equitable	1286.00			
RNPF Nurses	1171.98	Clerical Medical	1285.00			
Pearl Assurance	1171.00	Abbey Life	1284.20			
FS Assurance	1170.80	Britannic Assurance				
Abbey Life	1170.80	FS Assurance	1278.02			
Clerical Medical	1170.00	General Accident	1275.00			
National Provident	1170.00	Standard Life	1269.80			
Generali	1167.98	Scottish Widows	1269.50			
Britannic Assurance	1165.00		1264.00			
STIBILING ASSURANCE		Sagle Star				
Eagle Star	1164.00	Scottish Mutual	1262.00			
Co-Op Insurance	1164.00	Sun Alliance	1262.00			
Sun Life	1163.16	Pearl Assurance	1262.00			
General Accident	1162.20	Norwich Union	1261.00			
Standard Life	1159.80	National Provident	1260.00			
Scottish Widows	1150.50	Canada Life	1257.00			
Scottish Mutual	1150.00	Sun Life	1256.84			

thorized independent finan-

cial advisers. Several types of retirement annuity areavailable and choice should depend on individual needs.

The most common is an immediate annuity. The pen-sioner hands over his cash lump sum and in return the insurance company promises to pay a regular income for

These are ideally suited to individuals who have no dependents or whose spouse has made separate retirement arrangements. This is because on death the income payments finish even if the annuitant dies having received less than the amount of the original investment

For people with others dependent on their income it is more sensible to buy an annuity which guarantees that the pension is paid for a specified period, normally five or IO years. The income will continue to be paid whether or not the annuitant survives.

An alternative to this is a capital guaranteed annuity which promises to pay out at least the amount of the original investment. If the annuitant dies having received less than this the company will pay the outstanding balance to his

Joint life last survivor plans are mainly appropriate for retiring married couples. They will pay out one level of income while both busband and wife are alive but will lems - a 5 per cent annual

Looking for the best deal: Tom Nelson, a self-employed agricultural merchant

continue to pay ont a reduced amount when one has died. This will usually be about two-thirds of the original income inflation rate, for example, will effectively haive the value of a pension over a 10-year period, which is then paid until the death of the survivor. Inflation can cause prob-

Two types of annuity pro-

vide an escalating income, The most common type increases by a set rate each year financial adviser.

tion. There is, however, an annuity, which keeps pace with the Retail Price Index. Annuity rates are constantly

changing so near retirement

Composite tax rate falls

Building societies, banks, local authorities and banks, local authorities and other deposit-takers will be deducting 21.75 per cent from interest earned on savings accounts from April 6, 1969. This deduction, through the composite rate of tax, is handed to the intend. Revenue and cannot be recouped by investors even if they are non tax-payers. The current composite rate is 23.25 per cent and the reduction reflects the tworeduction reflects the two-point drop in the basic rate rate of tax in this year's Budget.

Policy changes

If The rules on the rights of investors to change their minds about decisions to minds about decisions to buy unit trusts or life assurance policies are assurance potcess are being tightened. Investors must receive notice of their cancellation rights within sever days of agreeing to buy and then they normally have 14 days to reverse the decision. The postal strike led to problems and the Securities and investments. Board had to declare a state of emergency, relaxing the rules. Now it proposes that when there is an that when there is an emergency it will be treated as a public holiday. This would automatically stop the clock on the time limits for sending cancellation notices or returning them.

Old money Hoarders could gain from doing a quick inventory of the attic armed with is it Worth Anything?—a guide to collectibles by Mr Stephen Elis, a financial journalist. In 157 pages the book cannot cover everything there is to know about the most provider collectors; items, but it popular collectors' items, but it provides a rough idea of what is valuable and what not

what is valuable and what not and names the most sought-efter examples in each category. These include postcards, stamps, coins, toys and financial paraphemalia such as old life assurance policies. NIG advice

NICE ELOVICE

National Investment
Group, the stockbroker
specializing in portfolio
management for private
clients, is giving advice on
best buys in building society
accounts. NIG is drawing
on information provided by
Building Society Choice
magazine, which checks
savings account rates. NIG
expects the service to be mo expects the service to be most popular with investors wanting to use cash deposit: as part of a wider investment portfolio, it will be charging a flat fee of £20 for advice, no matter how large the deposit.

Stockbroker fined Ir£500 for obstructing investigation employed by a separate firm reg-istered in Panama, and Tobias said salesmen used false names in calls to on the Stock Exchange in London,

The manager of a Dublin broker has been fined Ir£500 (£420) for obstructing Irish government officials who visited the company's premises after The Times published an article

warning against the firm in June. The Times said the firm, Bailey McMahon, was issuing mailshots to investors in Britain, offering shares in a London entertainment business, MOR Music Ltd, which was said to be part-owned by the comedian Jimmy Tarbuck, According to the comedian Jimmy Tarbuck. Vivien Goldsmith ing to Bailey McMahon sales staff, MOR Music shares would be traded

so would be readily marketable. However, SE officials denied all

knowledge of the company and pointed out that as a new business it could not qualify for a share quote. Similarly, Jimmy Tarbuck issued a statement saying he had no involvement whatsoever with MOR Music and had made no investment in it.

Four days after the article appeared, officials from Ireland's Office of Consumer Affairs went to Bailey McMahon's offices in Mer-rion Square, Dublin, but manager Leslie Williams, a former share dealer with a London broker, refused to admit them.

In Dublin District Court this week, Williams pleaded guilty to obstructing investigations into offences under the Republic's laws on misleading advertising.

Bailey McMahon itself, and John Tobias, managing director, also pleaded guilty to failing to produce records of deals involving shares in four other companies: Delicorp, Del Rio Resources, Daytona Spyder Corp and US Protect Systems. The

company was fined Ir£400, and Tobias was fined Ir£300 with one month's suspended prison sentence. In court, the deputy director of the Office of Consumer Affairs, Mr Eugene Stuart, said his staff was investigating allegations that Bailey McMahon sold shares in "obscure

companies in foreign countries," which investors would find difficult Tobias had admitted to him that Bailey McMahon only sold shares to investors outside the Republic. Ten of the company's 13 staff were

clients, for what he described as "ethnic reasons."

After the hearing, Mr Stuart said: "We asked for sufficient information on which an informed investor could judge the shares' value and marketability. We are now taking up our investigations where we left off before the court case. We still want all the information they denied us."

Tony Hetherington

Brokers and British Steel

She says private investors are unable to deal in Steel

shares until they receive allo-cation letters. This is not so. In most cases brokers will act for clients on the "dictum meum pactum" principle she quotes, selling shares for them which are not yet supported by allocation letters. One crucial point, however, is that brokers

will normally so act only for

their clients - not for strang-

ers whose "pactum" could be

of uncertain worth. If Ms Lamb wishes to speculate she should avail herself of the services of a stockbroker

Sir, Gwendoline Lamb complains the British Steel sbare issue is unfair (December 3).

She says private investors

A more important point, however, which Ms Lamb seems of the British Steel sbare issue is unfair (December 3).

A more important point, however, which Ms Lamb seems of the Department of Trade, is (December 3)?

She says private investors that the purpose of a privatization is to enable the public to own shares in the concern

LETTERS

whose shares are being issued. The intention is to allow individuals to invest in shares on a fair basis, not to offer the opportunity for the greedy to

make a fast buck.

If Ms Lamb simply wishes to gamble on the Stock Exchange she should expect little sympathy from the DTI. Yours faithfully,

P HOWELLS.

well before she expects to deal. Alhion Street, Leeds. A question of legal/administrative fees on mortgages

From Mr H.R. Anderson Sir. Nearly a year ago my wife and I completed a mortgage with Chemical Bank Home following completion of the extra charge was sprung on us.

My call it a "legal/adminimortgage I was amazed to find they had added a £150 arrangement fee to the loan. 1

legal/administration" will be added to the loan; we took this as referring to their legal fees, Loans. In the bank's letter hence my surprise that this

stration fee" in one document and an "arrangement" fee in queried this. Chemical Bank another? Since in the Home took two months to reply and Loan Offer all details of the referred me to a condition in mortgage are known, why cantheir Home Loan Offer. This not the arrangement fee, if it is

condition said their "standard to be charged, be specified? Arrangement fees are not stan-

dard practice for mortgages We have had five mortgages before and have never been charged an arrangement fee. I believe mortgage lenders should be obliged to do what

all charges at the time of offer of loan. Yours faithfully H. R. ANDERSON, Brook Cottage, Priston, Rath. Mr David Cameron-Moore,

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The fact is, in any ordinary account your savings aren't working as hard as they could. But take a look at the High Interest Cheque Account from Bank of Ireland and discover an interest rate that's hard to beat - currently 9.0% net - along with a unique package of benefits. All you need is £2,000 to open your account, and if you we got over £10,000 the interest rate goes up to an impressive 9.25 % net.

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Please send me more information on the High Interest Cheque Account
Tenclose a cheque for £
Full Name(s)

Edgature No.



Fill in the coupon and post if the Robert Dunne, Bank of Ireland,

Plea to simplify life claims

Why do companies insist on seeing both probate and death certificate? When I tidied up a small estate this year for an elderly widow who needed the money - as much as she could get - as quickly as possible, I bought several stamped copies of probate at 25p each. I need not have bothered. Death certificates are much dearer, and I

had only one. Every insurance company local managers of two huge national companies that the probate document itself certi-

insisted on seeing both documents. I pointed out to the Oak Street, Shrewsbury. J. E. COWEN. fied death, and if the court was

managing director of BNF

Mortgages replies: Sir. From 1981 until 1985 our

mortgage company operated through three "tied" solicitors who made a charge of £220. This was debited to the client's

account and this charge was

fully explained in brochures. In April 1987, due to re-peated requests from our ap-

plicants, it was decided that in

future we would use the

clients' own solicitors. We set

up our own department to deal with matters which had

hitherto been dealt with hy the

tied" solicitors such as safe

The operation of this dep-

artment involves costs but we

were able to reduce the charge

to the borrower from £220 to

£150. There is no confusion

about this fee, it is spelt out clearly in our brochure.

arrangement fee and indeed, certain lenders impose an

arrangement fee and use tied solicitors. We charge no arrangement fee other than that related specifically to the cost of operating our legal

services department.

We are always concerned to ensure that fees incurred by a

borrower when taking a mort-

gage from us are stated very

clearly when he first obtains a

mortgage. Yours faithfully,

DAVID CAMERON-

MOORE. BNP Mortgages, Aldwych House, London.

Certain lenders impose an

keeping of deeds, and verifica-

tion of search certificates.

Portfolio Accumulator

1 +3 +2 +4 +3 +5 2 +6 +5 +4 +2 +7

3 +1 +3 +4 +5 +4

4 +3 +5 +5 +2 +6

trouble and expense.

Yours faithfully,

that the death certificate was

superfluous. Both. bowever.

said: "It is the practice of the

company to ask for the death

I asked both managers to

see if their companies would

save themselves a little ad-

ministrative work, and the

customer a little unnecessary

certificate.

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's Portfolio price changes (today's are on page 21). most banks do and make clear

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	9	+7	+6	+3	+2	+9	_	
	10	+4	+2	#	+3	+5		
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39 +2 +1 +4 +4 +5

40 +1 +8 +7 +2 +5

41 +2 +3 +5 +3 +4 42 +3 +5 +3 +1 +7

43 +4 +4 +7 +1 +5 44 +3 +4 +2 +5 +5

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If Christmas presents always slay your savings perhaps it's time to plan for Christmas Future by investing in the stock market.

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**Ampound annual use: "Share price total return all income reinvested, figures i	nurce MICROPAL based on mid market prices. The cost	of buying जात sching abase	s must be taken into acc
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EATING OUT: JONATHAN MEADES

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOHN ROGERS

Let slip the props of war!



he fiftieth anniversary is next September; but already Victoria



Tennant, Jane Seymour, Robert Mitchum. Hart Bochner and thousands of others are preparing for



war. And the acting profession will not be alone: they also serve



out the uniforms, weapons and other props, as **Paul Charman**

who only hire

discovers

"There's Goering," Bob Worth says, pointing towards the bloated German air marshal's sickeningly ostentatious sky-blue parade coat. 'But I can't see Speer or Hitler . . .

These notable omissions in the racks of the ministry uniforms department are clear evidence that war clouds were already gathering over Bermans and Nathans, the leading film and theatrical costumiers, whose unremarkable warehouse in Camden holds a vast and timeless wardrobe of more than a million human garments, from the

loin-cloth to the space suit.

And with the fiftieth anniversary of the outbreak of the Second World War next year, the gaps testify to the film and television industry's well advanced spring offensive to mark the event.
In preparation for the anniver-

sary, all the surviving materiel of the war - trucks, jeeps, aero-planes, ambulances, staff cars, uniforms, and weapons - are being commandeered in their thousands for a vast dramatic rerun of the dire and bloody events from which they originate. Now the props of war, they are being dusted down and made ready for the biggest requisitioning of stock since the war itself. In the words of Andrew Allan, chairman of ITV's network drama committee: "Anybody who has anything that's khaki or a gas mask is going to make a fortune".

The country's leading military prop hirers can be counted on one hand, but between them they possess the largest collection of military hardware outside the Imperial War Museum. And for Bob Worth, a tireless 71-year-old still putting in a full day's work as Bermans' general manager, war broke out earlier this year.

No sooner had he met contracts tu supply 500 military uniforms for Dennis Potter's adaptation of

Christabel, the true story of an Englishwoman who spent the war years in Germany, and another 700 for LWT's Piece of Cake, a television tale of Battle of Britain fighter pilots, than he was fighting to meet the company's biggest \$500,000 contract for 6,450 outfits

regiments of the British Army. They were for War and Remem brance, a 30-hour Hollywood TV blockbuster in which Robert Mitchum, Jane Seymour, Victoria Tennant, Hart Bochner, John Gielgud and a cast of thousands go to war. It will be screened by ITV next autumn. The order docket, pinned to an office wall crowded with monochrome stills of the stars whom Bermans have dressed, read like a battle manifest: "Allied uniforms - 1,000; German Army, Navy, Air Force uniforms, political and brownsbirts - 1,000; Russian uniforms - 800; striped concentration camp outlis - 1,100 ... " and so on. With a rental charge per outfit of between £50 and £70 per produc-

tion, fees can be spectacular.
"We're already in the thick of the French Revolution because of the bicentenary," Worth says, with a strange air of timelessness. "And the Second World War is well under way. I reckon it will go on for a good four years once they start arriving at the different battles, the fall of France, Dun-kirk, the Battle of Britain, right up

to the Arnhem drop." " Personally I find some of it a bit macabre." He pauses for a moment by a row of Nazi and SS caps, supplied to Bermans to this day by the Munich firm that was hatter to the Nazis.

"War," he points out, "is one of those high-risk areas for damages and losses. A lot of the stuff comes back blown up or builet-ridden. You get a Sam Peckinpah or a

- enough to dress 10 infantry

Rambo film, then you know you've got trouble."
Shooting wars can sometimes involve a military property master in considerable personal risk, particularly when he does his own stunts, like Mark Hanna, of the Old Flying Machine Company, based at Duxford in Cambridgeshire. A former RAF Phantom pilot now running his own flight of 10 wartime fighters, he flew his Spitfire under a 100ft semi-circular bridge for a stunt in Piece of Cake.

e began the collection back in 1981, with his father, a former leader of the Red Arrows. We started with a single aeroplane, but it snowballed tremendously," he says.

Today, his collection comprises

a Spitfire, an ME 109, a P51, a Mustang, a Corsair, a P40 Kitty Hawk, an Avenger torpedo bomber, a Harvard trainer, a Fokker DV II First World War biplane, a Stearman 1930s American trainer and one of the first jet fighters, a Meteor 8. He reports "a huge resurgence of interest in World War II and particularly in the planes which flew in the Battle of Britain. We used to do it as a hobby but we had to make it more commercial and make the planes pay for themselves". Now the Spitfire goes out at just under

£2,000 an hour. The high attrition rate on to bear if you are a genuinely obsessive collector, like Tony Oliver of TLO, the company named after his initials. The son of an antique dealer, Oliver had a boybood fascination for all things military which spawned what is today Britain's largest collection of military and period vehicles, some 200 in all, garaged on a rambling five-acre depot running alongside the M4 outside Windsor

which passing motorists might mistake for a battlefield. The charred wreck of a wartime German Kubelwagen jeep, set on fire and crushed by a tank during the making of Indiana Jones III, lies discarded several hundred yards from an alarmingly realistic model of a V2 rocket and rows of

US Army trucks. "What the Allies failed to do in five years took the film people just five minutes," he says, pointing at the wreck. Although show busi-ness is bis bread and hutter, it irks bim that film companies often regard his lovingly restored convoy of military transport as destructible.

Oliver began in the mid 1950s with a large mail-order list and was contacted by Bermans, who were searching for a uniform for The Heroes of Telemark. He got on well with the costumiers, who recommended bim as technical adviser for The Battle of Britain, marking the last major anniversary of the war, the 25th.

"I was struck by the dire



Bob Worth, of Bermans and Nathans, film and theatrical costumiers: "War is a high-risk area for damages and losses. A lot of the stuff comes back blown up or bullet-ridden."

shortage of authentic World War Two vehicles, particularly German ones, and it grated on me how they used American half-tracks posing as German." He launched his vehiele collection with four German Volkswagen

jeeps, which he bought for £1,000. One of them was an amphibious Schwimwagen used by Lord

Strathcona and Mount Royal to ride to and fro from his Scottish island estate.

He travelled to Seville for a month before filming, searching for vehicles. "There was stuff everywhere, ambulances, staff cars, trueks, motorcycles, all German, left behind after the Spanish Civil War." At the end of the film

he bought them from the company

and set up on his own. "That grew into anything from searchlights to pay books, from sentry boxes to spy radios." But his most impressive vehicle is a fully operative 1944 US Stuart tank, which he bought from the

Continued overleaf



Tony Oliver, of TLO: "As we get further from the war, companies are demanding greater authenticity, specifying models and makes."



Peter Dinely, of Bapty's, the war stores: "We always have a lot of dead stock so we look forward to this Second World War thing taking off."



LET SLIP THE PROPS OF WAR!

Continued from previous page

makers of The Dirty Dozen. It was one of eight sold to the production company by a Portsmouth marine breakers.

He is in mid-restoration of two 1930s Mercedes Type 200 touring cars, on which he has spent £80,000 in rebuilding. Research with Mercedes in Stuttgart revealed that one had a pedigree linking it directly to Hitler, records showed that it was commissioned for use as a staff car by the Reich chancellery in Berlin in 1937, with orders for special

Demand for his vehicles is doubling as next year's movie wars get into gear. But with it come the increased risks of loss and damage. Although standing props like radios and searchlights go out at a weekly rental of 7.5 per cent of their replacement value, he charges between £100 and £150 a day for his "action vehicles".

hey go through hell, those vehicles. "What you have to remember," he says, "is that you get film crews riding on the running boards hanging off doors, the windows blown out, the bodywork riddled with bullets, people having their lunch in the back . . . It's a constant headache. When you have cars as rare as the Phanomen, the Steyer, the Hannomag and the Stoewer, they are simply irreplaceable. You just can't get the parts any more.'

He told forlormly of a Mercedes 320 German staff car, valued at £75,000. An actor burnt out the starter motor and it had to be replaced with one from a Wolseley, thereby reducing its value to £20,000 at a stroke, he claims.

Sometimes you get the money from the film company, but only after a lot of haggling. They just say 'Well, do you want to work again?' But I can't replace the vehicle." As a consequence, Oliver is now reluctant to hire out the most valuable quarter of his stock - including a £70,000 1950s Mercedes 300 SL tourer - to the film companies.

"As we get further away from the war," he observes, "companies are demanding a greater degree of authenticity about what they want, specifying exact models and makes," Writers, he says, are getting keener on detail now, following the example of Len Deighton, celebrated for his fastidiously detailed scripts - not only for The Ipcress File, but also for the TV spy drama Game, Set and Match. "He wants to get every thing exact - right down to the colour of the bus tickets." Oliver

"At the moment there is a lot of nostalgia for the Thirties, Forties embassy and they couldn't help



Mark Hanna, of the Old Flying Machine Company, runs a flight of 10 wartime fighters and does his own stunts: "It's snowballed tremendously"

and Fifties - which is strange because they were years of war and depression. For my own piece of mind, I try to ensure that anything I offer is 100 per cent right."

In his office are piles of volumes on military history and bound copies of contemporary magazines such as Life and Picture Post which he uses for research. He is rarely beaten but it has been known. "I had an inquiry to find out the markings for a police car in wartime Turkey. I contacted the' and no amount of research could turn it up. I had to admit defeat,"

Without the arms merchants no war can ever take place, and the Krupps of the movie industry are Bapty's, the biggest civilian armourer in the country. They have marched alongside Oliver for the past 25 years on nearly every war film since The Dirty Dozen.

A family firm run by Peter Dinely with fortress premises off the Harrow Road, north London, Bapty's is known in the business as "war stores". It is where the

film business goes for the hardware of war. Dinely inherited the company

from bis father, a wartime MoD weapons specialist who launched the vast stock of 5,000 fully operational weapons by buying up army surplus after 1945. Those were the days when you could huy a sten gun for two shillings or a Vickers machine gun for five bob", he says.

"But we are always buying. We've got the latest British Army rifle, the SA80 ... Hold on ... Somebody's taking out some firearms." Suddenly he heads towards the office door to investigate. The paperwork has to be done correctly - in triplicate," he explains, "or we'll all end up in

With an arsenal of firearms from every country and every period, security is a constant headache. Apart from a stock of 10,000 muskets and swords dating from Waterloo, Bapty's "inner sanctum" houses enough working weaponry to equip a small army.

WHO'S SHOOTING WHAT

 BBC: Road to War, a major eight-part documentary tracing the origins of war, scheduled for the autumn; The Raturn to Montesole, BBC Enterprises co-production about an Italian town destroyed by the SS, in project

 ITV network: War and mbrance, 30 hours of television film, the Hollywood sequel to Winds of War, starring Robert Mitchum and Steven Berkoff and a Hollywood cast, scheduled for the autumn. ● LWT: Wish Me Luck, a second

esplonage series on British women sples in occupied France, starring Julian Glover, Jane Asher and Kate Buffery; The Long-Haired Boy, adaptation of Richard Hillary's novel. The Last Enemy, about a badly burnt wartima pilot.

● TVS: Murderers Among Us — the story of Simon Wiesenthal, a two-part mini series starring Ben Kingsley as the great Nazi hunter, with Renee Soutendijha and Craig T. Nelson, scheduled for the spring; The Heroes, co-production with Network 10 of Australia about a famous allied raid on Japanese-held Singapore, starring Paul Rhya, John Bach and John Hargreaves, schedule for April.

YTV: Till We Meet Again, saga of a French family who liva through both world wara, based on Judith Krantz's book.

● Tyne Tees: A Nightingale Sang, a wartime drama based on a story by C.P. Taylor and adapted by Jack Rosenthal about a cockney soldier a affect on two Tyneside sisters, starring Joan Plowright, Tom Watt, John Woodvine and Phyllis Logan, scheduled for April.

· HTV: Pursuit, based on the book by Robert L. Fish, the saga of a July conspirator who ends the war fighting for the establishment of Israel, starring Ban Cross and Veronica Harnel.

· Granada: Countdown to War, a major drama documentary in three parts, about the days leading up to the declaration of war, After the War, written by Fredaric Raphael, a 10-part series on how the British professional middle classes faced the post-war years,

Row upon row of battle-scarred

Mausers, Schmeissers, Lee En-

fields, carbines and tommy guns, many of which have seen active service, await despatch to the film

set. They travel in iron boxes, guarded by a minder. The com-

pany also supplies a team of technicians, who advise on han-

dling, blank-firing and security, and are often accompanied by Dinely's 20-year-old daughter

Viktoria, said to be the youngest

trainee armourer in the business.

Bapty's also houses a vast

starring Anton Rodgers, Dennis Quifley and Susannah York, scheduled for April; Pied Piper, a two-hour TV film based on Nevil two-nour IV min based on Nevil Shute's novel about an eldarly English solicitor who rescues a group of children from occupied France; The Heat of the Day, a two-hour drama of Elizabeth Bowen's novel, adapted by Harold Pinter, a wartime story of a young English woman who discovers her lover is a Nazi, starring Michael York, Patricia Hodge and Michael Gembon, scheduled for the autumn.

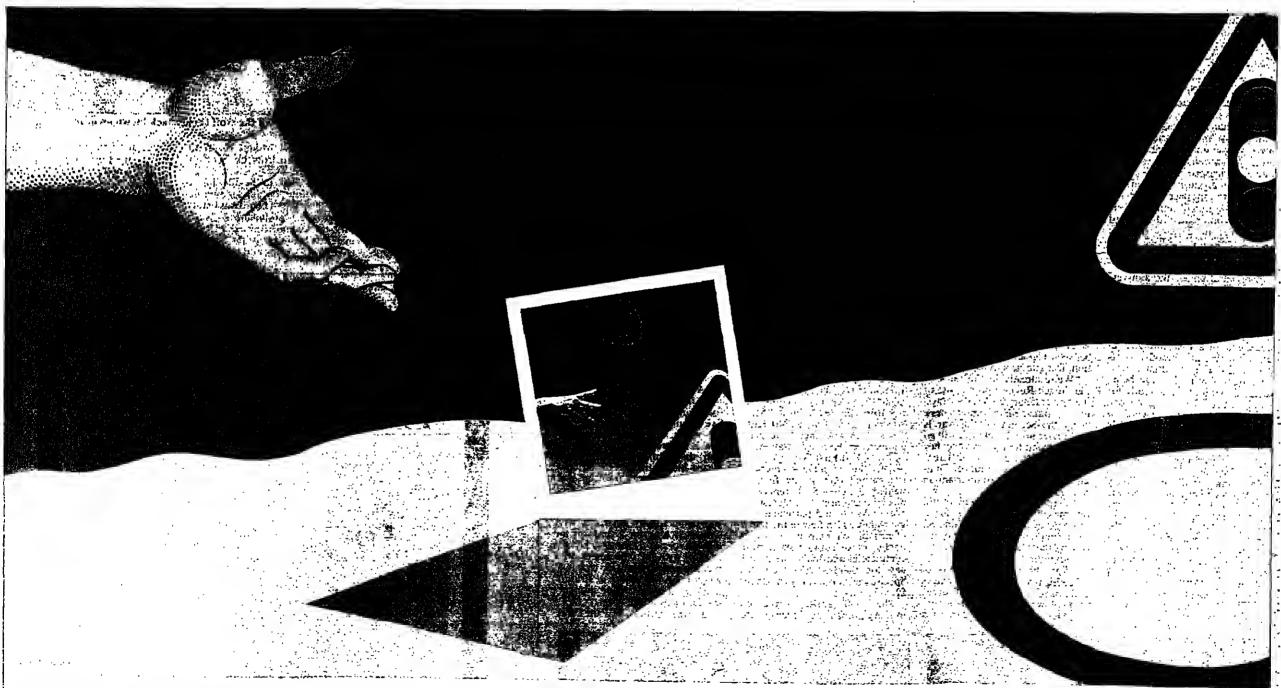
 Central: The Day War Broka Out, a major documantary;
Tanamera, a seven-hour series based on Noel Barber's best-selling novel about a love affair between an English boy and a Chinesa girl in Singapora, starring Chris Bowen and Khyam Lee, scheduled for the New Year. The Free Franchman, adaptation of Piera Paul Baad's adaptation of Piera Paul Raad's book on the French Rasistanca.

 Independent TV Production:
The Tenth Man, adaptation of Graham Greene's story about the Franch Resistance in wartima Paris, starring Anthony Hopkins, Derak Jacobi and Cyril Cusack, made by Norman Rosemont, an American company, at Pinewood; Inside the Gestapo, a Palece Telavision co-production based on the true story of a Belgian woman who story of a Belgian woman who worked as a Gestapo secretary by day and a resistance leader by night; The English Lady, a US television film about the Mitfords.

 Feature films: David
 Putnam's Memphis Belle, the story of a Flying Fortress bomber based in East Anglia which flew 25 missions over Germany; Hannah Senesh, a Cannon production about an Cannon production about an Israeli spy dropped behind anemy lines; War Requiem, Don Boyd'a film adaption of Benjamin Britten's famous work; Sonia, another US production featuring a concentration camp story; Triumph, a Ronnie Yacov film about the Nazi persecution of Greek Jews: The Final of Greek Jews; The Final Chapter, Branko Lustig's sequel to The Great Escape; Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade, in which Harrison Ford comes face to face with Hitler at a Nuremberg rally.

collection of military antiques and curios - from a suit of armour to a period French-letter packet. "We always have a lot of dead stock so: we look forward to this Second. World War thing taking off." Dinely says.

In preparation for the hostil-ities, Bapty's is ordering extra supplies of that last vital ingredient of a good war - blood. Literally gallons of it, made 10 their secret recipe and marketed under their trade name: Kensington Gore.



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- Polaroid

THE ARTS

Digging for unforgettable Cole









Scenes from a life: although Nat King Cole was the first black singer to win a large white following, when he intended to move his family into a WASP neighbourhood in Los Angeles, the residents mounted a campaign against them

The man who can lay claim to being one of the world's leading authorities on Nat King Cole lives in a modest semi-detached house in south London. There, in a first-floor man filled with allows floor room filled with album sleeves. Roy Holmes tends a collection of recordings which has been growing steadily since attending hist Nat King Cole concert in 1950.

Like many of his contemporaries, Holmes was spellbound by the blend of suave vocals and dazzling jazz piano solos. Now a commercial manager with an engineering firm, he has amassed thousands of Cole recordings, from scratched 78s to bizarre 16in discs recorded for exclusive use by American radio stations. The stacks of alhums on the walls are oeatly divided according to their country of origin, from Belgium to Japan.

Pride of place, however, goes to the card index system and charts oo the table in the centre of the room. Holmes spends many of his evenings poring over them as he compiles a complete discography of Cole's work. The final product - including hundreds of obscure jazz recordings - will run to around 800 pages. He hopes to have it ready by 1990, the 25th anniversary of the singer's death

from lung cancer. Curiously, in all the times that

(Broadhurst Theatre), his first full-length farce for the the-

atre, Neil Simoo sends his

characters zooming to the heights of hilarity. At an

upscale house in an upscale

New York suburb, frenzy reigns. The first of four cou-

ples arrive for a 10th wedding

auniversary party, to find that the hostess and servants have

disappeared, the banquet is

uncooked, and the host has

tried to commit suicide. He

has naly grazed his ear and

passed out on a few valiums,

but the characters' imagina-

and suicide is a crime: the

reputations of all could be ruined and they might go to

The first couple tries to hide the potential scandal when the

second arrive, and so on until

four couples are involved in a cover-up that has them cook-

ing and eating the party food

and matching wits with the police. Along the way they

acquire or aggravate various physical ailments and emo-

tional grudges, and do enough running around to qualify for a marathon. One of them comments: "I feel like I'm at the Alamo." This frivolous,

forgiving celebration of what

fools we mortals be is directed

by Gene Saks and acted by a

winning ensemble with pre-

Simoo was brave, after his

autobiographical trilogy beg-

inning with Brighton Beach

Memoirs finally won him

recognition as a serious play-

wright, to risk farce. America's

puritannical heritage is still

strong enough to lend farce a

cision and relish.

tions run riot. The host is the Deputy Mayor of New York, the couples are both lawyers,

ife is full of banana peels, and farce celebrates humanity's slippings and slid-ings. In Rumours

he saw Cole perform live, he never tried to meet him. "The thing that mattered to me was the music," he explains. "He was such a marvel-lous artist, I was frightened that if I came face to face with him that I'd find he was a let-down, like so many show business people."

Had Holmes plucked up the courage to go backstage, he is unlikely to have been disappointed. The man who emerges from Arena's 90-minute documentary, The Unforgettable Nat King Cole, appears to have been every bit as courteous and relaxed every bit as courteous and relaxed in private as he was on record.

"He was the calmest, most gentlemanly man I'd ever come across," Jo Lustig says. The documentary's producer, Lustig was also Cole's Press agent during a European tour in 1960. "Everyone also would not excited account. one else would get excited around him, but he never did. He was always under control,"

Lustig says his film is the first to be made with the permission of Cole's widow, Maria, who gave her consent after seeing the earlier arena study of Billie Holiday. Armed with her blessing, Lustig was able to line up interviews with artists including Frank Sinatra, Quincy Jones and Ella Fitzgerald.

Oscar Petersoo is also oo hand to explain the importance of Cole's piano style. Even today, few

The life of jazz musician Nat King Cole is celebrated on television on Friday in Arena, the first film on him

to be authorized by his widow. Clive Davis reports on the facts and myths behind the star's often troubled career

of the people who buy re-issues of "Mona Lisa" and "Nature Boy" realize that the man who sang them happened to be one of the most important pianists in jazz history. Besides pioneering the piano/bass/guitar format — later used by Peterson himself — Cole developed a fluid keyboard technique copied by many players of the Forties and Fifties.

Born in Montgomery, Alabama, he began his career as a pianist in Chicago, heavily influenced by Earl Hines. In 1937 he moved to Los Angeles as part of the touring company of Enbie Blake's revue, Shuffle Along. Soon afterwards the celebrated King Cole Trio made its debut, with Oscar Moore on guitar and Wesley Prince on

double bass.

Exactly when Nat King Cole, the vocalist, came into being has been the subject of a good deal of myth-making. The Arena film mischievously includes a clip from a 1955 short, The Nat King Cole Story, which shows the star re-enacting the old legend of how a drunk badgered him into singing during a performance at a Los Angeles venue. According to the myth, the song was "Sweet Lor-raine", the year 1940 or 1942. Duke Ellington's lyricist, Don George, was among those who muddied the waters even further when he moved the location from the West Coast to New York and had Cole standing in for an errant

Billie Hohday. Other permutations of the myth have come and gone. The truth, according to Maria Cole and Roy Holmes, is that Cole had long been in the habit of singing with the trio. "In later years," Maria says, "the story about how he started singing grew up, and he just went along with it. He didn't see any reason oot to."

Cole's career as a singer finally took off with the 1943 soog, "Straighten Up and Fly Right".
From then, oo he enjoyed a series of hits including "Get Your Kicks on Ronte 66" and "The Christmas Song". The latter, written by Mel Torme and Robert Wells in 1945, was the first of the famous ballads set to strings.
As Cole's commercial standing

increased, the trio — and his jazz training — were slowly pushed into the background, But his musical roots were not totally neglected. Holmes's discography contains literally scores of unknowo jazz items recorded with leading players of the bop generation. Already under contract to Capitol, Cole was often obliged to play under a pseudonym. While the label ootes might name the pianist as "Aye Guy", "Lord Calvert", "Shorty Nadine" or "Sam Schmaltz", the cognoscenti knew that they were really listening to Cole himself. Holmes assumes that Capitol whose early fortunes were built on the singer's commercial work turned a blind eye to the moonlighting.

But if his singing career was a stary of almost unbroken success, he had to contend with the handicaps imposed by racial discrimination. Though he was the first block career the first block career the first block career the first block career the second of the first block career the first second the firs the first black singer to win a large white following, he never quite enjoyed the social status to match. In 1948, residents of an exclusive WASP neighbourhood in Los Angeles mounted a campaign to stop him and his family moving into the district. His adopted

front lawn. The most brutal incident was still to come. In 1956 he was attacked by racialists while performing before a segregated audience in his native town. When Cole politely insisted oo playing down the affair, he was con-demned as an Uncle Tom hy some black newspapers. Nightclub owners in Harlem reportedly removed. his records from their juke-boxes.

daughter, Carol, still recalls seeing the word "Nigger" hurnt into the

Race was also the main factor when his weekly televisioo show was taken off the air in 1957 after just over a year. Though audience figures were rising, sponsors were relnctant to support a black performer, prompting Cole's quip: Madisoo Aveoue is scared of the dark." The surviving footage, with glimpses of guests such as Ella Fitzgerald, Peggy Lee and Cole-man Hawkins, shows what a marvellous opportunity was lost. Cole's hopes of building a career in films met a similar fate. Mainly confined to hlack roles, such as portraying W. C. Handy in St. Louis Blues, he found suitable parts hard to come by. Lustig observes that it would have been a different story today: Cole at least succeeded in opening doors for

later generations. Whether those reverses hastened his premature death in 1965 is open to question. A highly contentious biography by the American author, James Haskins, recently described him as a lanely man, manipulated by those nearest to him and "profoundly saddened by life". The Arena film, with its elips of sunny home movies, gives a markedly different

impression.

The music, in any case, will outlive the controversy. Maria Cole is already talking of plans for the 25th anniversary of her husband's death. Meanwhile Holmes. who helped compile an album of unreleased Capitol material earlier this year, estimates that there are some 200-300 items still locked away in the company's archives. The next generation of Nat King Cole fans obviously has plenty to look forward to.

The Unforgettable Nat King Cole, an Arena special, will be shown on BBC2 on Friday, 9-10-30pm.

Playing farce and sister are keenly written and played. Mother, for example, worries about responses to WASP ebaracters: "Critics don't like us. They think we're all Republicans and all alcoholics and all superficial.

season has a bumpy reception



Kate Nelligan: mother, femme fatale, in Spoils of War

disreputable aura - laughter for its own sake is a sin — and he was accordingly chastized Mixed notices won't kill Rumours at the box-office, but they may do io the first Broadway drama of the season, Michael Weller's Speils of Il ar (Music Box Theatre). to get his parents reconciled. Weller has previously created, in such plays as Moonchildren socio-political background the and Loose Ends, portraits of material is promising, but the Baby Boom generation with too many choices and too few standards an anti-climactic parental by which to make them. Spoils meeting and then it peters out. of War moves back in time, to the generation of Leftist ideal-

ists who felt lost in the America of the Fifties. In a rave-winning perfor- from the play.

and loose The first Broadway drama of the pass picasantly. The Manhattan Theater Club has opened its season

mance, Kate Nelligan plays the femme fatale of a pre-Second World War commune, divorced and struggling to give her teenage son an elite education. Her ex-husband has climbed into the upper middle class, and the play's focus is upon the son's effort With the family story and

Ripely alluring and a dynamo as the mother, backed by a good cast, Nelligan just doesn't get enough support

Thriving off-Broadway is A.R. Gurney Jr's new play, The Cocktail Hour (Promenade Theatre). Its quality falls slightly on the positive side between his best plays, The Dining Room and The Middle Ages, and his recent disappointments Sweet Sue and Another Antigone. Gurney has returned to the milieu and characters of his expertise -upper-middle-class WASPs io a family comedy about a drawn, the story surprising in son visiting his elderly parents its tough and tender turns, to seek their blessing to produce a play he has written Greenberg looks like the most

the son and the actor chosen for the role - mother, father

Only the last is true." Two hours of this kind of chat, with characters working through problems at the family bar,

with a charmed doubleheader. John Patrick Shanley, winner of last year's Best Original Screenplay Oscar for Moonstruck, has written another operatie love story in Italian American Reconciliation. Though his ex-wife Janice shot his dog and then took aim at him, Huey Maximilian Bonfigliana is still so in love with her that he begs his best friend, Aldo Scalicki, to intercede. The moonlit balcony scene in which Aldo dent of Katherine and Beatrice - and Huey comes to reclaim his manhood as a comic consin to Cyrann de Bergerac, may be a bromide but Shanley makes it into an

TC's second hit, which is moving to Broadway in January, is Rich-ard Greenberg's amusing and thoughtful Eastern Standard. Four upwardlymobile young Manhattanites (a stockbroker involved in an inside trading scandal, her gay brother who is a television writer with Aids, a gay artist, and an architect disgusted with his profession's cootribution to urban blight and homelessness), meet and fall in love, with interference from a waitress no the make and a schizophrenic bag lady.

The characters examine their culture and their consciences, the youthful quartet concluding that: "We're full-fledged adults and we've done almost nothing correctly."
The dialogue has fluency and punch, as when one character describes his conservative mother: "There's not a revolution in history that would have failed to execute her." The characters are piquantly about them.

The Cocktail Hour's weakness is the bland character of

Holly Hill

A GREAT CHALLENGE PROFIT FROM HUMAN VALUES

WHAT IS IT?

For decades, writers have been observing the decline in human values and saying "we must do something". Social and political leaders have been commenting on the increase in alienation hopelessness and violence and saying, "we must do something". Philosophers have been observing the rise in cynicism and rurhlessness and saying "we must do something". And today, most people, in all levels of society, weary of the pressure of harmful influences on themselves, their families and their children are saying "we must do something".

WHAT IS IT THAT HAS TO BE DONE? ... and by whom? ... and how?

I have a vision. A vision inspired by the same tensions and pressures of today's life that have created the problems. Yes! I believe the problem offers the solution. I want to look at all communication techniques used so successfully to achieve ever increasing material prosperity for the human race, and employ them in a new role to help bring happiness, harmony and tranquillity to all those who are so desperately seeking them. And I want YOU to be a part of it. A part of a great solution.

THE BIRTH OF A NEW INDUSTRY

Now that we have conquered new frontiers in the "Atom Age" and the "Jet Age" and the "Computer Age" why can't we pioneer a new "Age of human well-being". This can be a highly profitable and extensively rewarding new industry. Profitable industries have supported every major development in social life in the 20th Century. But in the process, simple human values like responsibility, co-operation, tolerance, courage, patience, hope and many others, have largely been left to fend for themselves until now. Just as the pharmaceutical industry exists for nur physical health so we can create a profitable industry to promote our psychic and social well-being. Pause and think about the New Brave World where technology, commerce and industry are all at the service of "human values", rather than human values being slaves to commercial interests and industrial

THE FIRST STEP

This concept has become my passionate conviction and I have devoted nearly two decades to developing the idea into marketable products. Many artists, graphic designers and writers have been commissioned to create effective and positive messages to promote human values. Swiss experts have been commissioned to develop a machine that can project a variety of TV commercial style, 60 second films to evoke desired emotions, selected by the individual. If you are bursting with anger, or subdued with lack of drive, there is an audio-visual message stored in the machine which should help you overcome the unwelcome feeling. A well known British graphic designer has been commissioned to develop human values symbols similar to traffic signs in express and inspire great human qualities. All these creations and developments and the theory behind them are put together in a book called WHAT IS IT? As the first step and the prototype product line for this revolutionary industry.

WHAT IS IT? is now on sale at FOYLE'S

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AN OPEN INVITATION

I am inviting all caring, influential, responsible people everywhere to read this book, get to know it well and to form their own ideas of its value. I am sure that many other institutions and individuals will soon join this crusade. Industrialists, Scientists, Political and Social leaders, Legislators, Councillors, Entrepreneurs, Businessmen, Book distributors and publishers, Communicators, Writers, Critics, Film makers, Musicians, Artists, Designers, Psychologists, Psychiatrists corporations and institutions could initiate their own efforts in developing this new industry. I invite the media to play its important and historic role in employing the idea as I have explained in the book WHAT IS IT?, and help in spreading universal awareness about it.

You will find in the book a full explanation of a great new idea and many beautifully illustrated examples of how it works in simple ways to reinforce the positive human qualities. This has nothing to do with cultism, religion, philosophy or politics. It has everything to do with the simple human values which are so neglected and undernourished today. It is an idea with tremendous implications. Please take it seriously.

JOIN THE GREAT CHALLENGE

History has shown us that people of influence, vision and goodwill can do much to hasten the spread of new ideas and new movements. Never was a new movement needed so urgently as this. I am inviting and urging you to join with me to help in the early stages of this great new movement, using your personal influence, your professional skill and your financial power in whatever ways suit you best. More power to you.

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Director of International Advertising Association 1974-80. Chairman of 24th IAA Congress
Awarded Crystal Globe for International Public Service Advertising and Holder of IAA Medal for Merit.

§ Impasse du Castel, 1700 Fribourg, Switzerland.

A bust-up at one of London's most venerable publishing houses has given the book world its youngest potentate. Felicity Rubinstein aged 30, was this week appointed managing director of Macmillan London. Last month Phillippa Harrison quit the post saying she could not work under a new structure in which the firm takes over sales and marketing of Pan, Sidgwick, and Macmillan's children's imprint.

No one can remember when a major publishing house last had a chief executive aged 30, but Nichnlas Byam Shaw, managing director of Macmillan's holding company, observed: "The idea that only 45-year-olds can do the big jobs is hunkum . . . I'm 54 and I feel between 80 and 90."

• Restoring Marble Hill House, in Twickenham, has taken John Jacob, director of the Iveagh Bequest, down some strange ave-nues. One of the house's original pieces, a pier table, was found resold to the owner of a Bondi Beach hairdresser chain. But the chase had not been simple: "The dealer had not only changed his address, but also his sex."

Dorrit accolades

The British are still coming. Pitted against Roger Rabbit, Tucker, and Wings of Desire, Christine Edzard's Little Dorrit has been voted the best film of this year





by the Los Angeles Film Critics Association. Alec Guinness was named best supporting actor for the film and Miriam Margolyes runner-up to the best supporting

Paper chasers

Arts Council secretary general Luke Rittner has a thing about the waste of paper at 105 Piccadilly. Minutes from grant panel meetings, backed by officers' reports, frequently cover more than 100 pages. These are then duplicated for each member of the council. Rittner's plan was to issue members with easily digestible, two-page summaries of panel recommendations. The council supported the summary idea, with one reservation: that members should get the full reports as well. Result: 102-page reports will be

Andrew Billen

PINE at the

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THE ARTS 2

THE TIMES ARTS DIARY Firm faith in youth Abust-up at one of Lordon's most and a support of

Leopold Lewis's melodrama holds a permanent place in the history of English acting, as the work that catapulted Henry Irving to fame. The photographs of Irving in the role nf Mathias, his annotated prompt copy, and recollections of eyewitnesses (all collected in David Mayer's 1980 Manchester University Press editinn) give the play a further claim as an almost move-by-move record of a leg-

endary performance. David O'Shea and Simon Usher have plainly ransacked the Mayer text for their Leicester revival, as much in its music cues and stage directions as in the lrving impersonation of the lead performer. At the nightmare re-enactment of the murder, just as Irving pre-scribed, the bells escape from inside Mathias's head and progress stereophonically across the set so that you can almost see the Polish Jew on his sledge approach-

ing the waiting axeman. What the production entirely THEATRE

The Bells Haymarket Studio, Leicester

fails to do is to recreate the inner need for such effects. As a studio show, it has to find some alternative to the spectacular realism of Lyceum melodrama; and Brian Vahey's solution, unfortunately, is chamber guignol: a raked black stage with upstage windows through which new arrivals are seen ominously battling their way through the snow to a dialogueobliterating apparitinn of the victim. Mathias lets out a shriek of borror at the sight of the Santa Claus-like toy figure wohbling across the back wall.

The rest of the company support him as an equally doll-like assembly of Victorian stereotypes,

periodically answering him in unison chorus and deluging the lines in unmotivated laughter. David Gant's Mathias is another great laugher; baring wolfish fangs to the company and then turning to us with looks of stricken dread. The interest of this character is that of a hero-villain: a man who killed for the sake of his beloved

What you get from Gant, apart from the space-filling gestures taken from the Irving pictures, is furtive and ruthless self-preservation with a strong dash of cackling villainy. Even when embracing his daughter, he comes nver less as a doting parent than as a child

Gavin Bryars has supplied some doom-laden new musical atmospherics, but retained the original wedding song which goes to the tune of "Where Has My Little Dog



Irving Wardle Legendary: Sir Henry Irving as Mathias, the role that made his name

Cello in one hand, baton in the other

CONCERTS

Rostropovich/LSO Barbican

It takes considerable stamina to play in nne programme the soln part in Shostakovich's First Cello Concerto and conduct the Tenth Symphony, Mstislav Rostropovich not only did it, he poured so much energy into each perfor-mance that he left this listener feeling pretty drained by the end. It seems that the experience of

playing the enneerto urged him on to new heights: this was the first time I've found Rostropovich the conductor really comparable with Rostropovich the solnist.

There were odd mnments in the Tenth Symphony when I felt that points were being a little strained (in the first movement's eerie flute theme, Rostropovich's rubato nearly stopped the music altogether), but in spite of such momentary lapses the perfor-mance moved forward with enormous impetus, concluding with a tremendous sense of achievement. Rostropovich tells us that the

more he is involved with Shostakovich's music, the less he feels that he ever knew him personally. But the weakening of

given Rostropovich's conducted interpretations an abjective grandeur they formerly lacked.

In the Tenth Symphony, Rostropovich could have bid farewell to the kind of excesses that marred his earlier readings of the Fifth. But he has never been other than master of the First Cello Concerto, and with Maxim Shostakovich in charge of the accompaniment, he showed again what a right knit musical drama

Stephen Johnson



Extending Oval Table

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Edward Downes has a characteristic jiggling of the shoulders which usually seems to mean "this is tremendous fan because it's noisy and it's why I like being a conductor". It happened in the finely pointed performance of Holst's Perfect Fool ballet music which ended his Studio 7 concert, but not before. And that may be because the other two works are of

the kind that ought to be superb but somehow failed to connect. It is always a pleasure to hear Ernst Kovacic, with his apparently limitless technique and his spirited musicality; and it was a double pleasure to find him tackling a rarely played English work. Ber-

One staggered away from this hyperbolical performance of Mah-ler's Fifth Symphony with mixed feelings. For many in the hall it was perhaps (in different places) louder, faster, slower, more luridly coloured, more extreme in sudden dynamic contrasts, than any Mahler they had ever heard before: hence the feverish reception for Klaus Tennstedt and the London Philharmnic.

The orchestra certainly deserved that. It gave Tennstedt every ounce of its sonority, lasted this Grand National of symphonic trials superbly by calling on masBBCPO/Downes Studio 7, Manchester

nard Stevens's Violin Concerto of 1943 was praised to the skies at its first performance. It is easy to see

There is a confidence and a clarity in its every detail, a bold economy of material, and a strong design. But it is just as easy to see why it has failed to establish a firm place in the repertory. Stevens was using a language that had been all but exhausted by other British composers, notably Vanghan Wil-liams; and the strikingly individ-nal voices of Britten and Tippett

LPO/Tennstedt Festival Hall

those weeks of Messiaen rehearsals have not sapped strength 100 severely), and followed Tennstedt's gestures - sometimes none too clear in the mundane matter of keeping time - like hawks. The technical assurance, particularly

from the brass, was admirable.
However, this conductor's interpretation, though undoubtedly sincerely offered, often came over as synthetic, over-charged, exaggerated and - in the harsh, blaring fortissimo which it constantly demanded from the horns -

were just emerging at the time when Stevens achieved recognition. Fashion went another way. John Simon's orchestral Requiem of 1984, op 42, was com-posed in 1984 under the influence of Orwell's novel.

One can see why it caught the eye of a BBC score-reader, with its sured stylistic coherence and scrupulously balanced form. In the event, a certain blandness of orchestral colour impeded the searing passion the composer evidently intended. And, again, fashion seems to have gone another

David Fallows

rather ugly. It now verges on caricature: Neurosis in Disneyland.

The heavyweight textures worked better in the second movement and the finale, where the sheer vigour of the reading hid the absence of charm. The Adagietto, too, was an oasis of limpid gentleness and understatement. But the Funeral March, very slow and cumbersome, lost that sense of inexorable motion possessed by all the best hearses, and the scherzo was so stridently toned that one forgot to notice how virtuosic the playing was.

Choir celebration tinged by sorrow

Monteverdi Choir/Gardiner Queen Elizabeth Hall

John Eliot Gardiner's Monteverdi Choir, oow celebrating its silver jubilee season, has over the years established new standards in choral singing, with its keen-edged rhythm, pure pitching and hlend, and a style of voice production and a style of voice production that projects positively, even occa-sionally aggressively. All those qualities were found in this con-cert, which the musicians sponta-neously dedicated to the victims of the Armenian earthquake; and by and large they were reflected also in the orchestral playing of the London Baroque Soloists, though in this instance that was not without the odd blip.

The major work was Beethoven's Mass in C, and from the beginning Gardiner's care in shaping a phrase to achieve maximum dramatic effects was made evident. The way in which the Kyric opened soaring, as it were, from its quiet beginnings into an imposing arch, was mightily impressive; and the meticulous control of expressions Gardiner showed throughout, here holding back the

statement of faith perfectly. Its cause was also helped by a team of solo singers which really was a team. Elzbieta Szmytka's soprano shone a particularly radiant light over the music, while the mezzosoprano Eirian James, the Finnish tenor Risto Saarman, and the bass Alastair Miles sang with innate understanding both of the work and of each other.

Mozart occupied the rest of the programme. First there was the intense D minor Kyrie, K341, no small work itself, whose prednminantly sombre colours, conveyed by its orchestration as much as anything else, seemed apt for the Armenian dedication. It was followed by the Symphony Nn 39 in E flat, which was graced with details like the daringly slow opening Adagin and a beautifully floated principal theme in the slow movement, but marred by an occasional bovever the light that It was, however, the kind that results not from sloppiness but from the sheer tension of the

Stephen Pettitt

ON MONDAY: The answers to The Times Musical Challenge, and the winner of the trip to New York

The Snow Queen Sadler's Wells power, their unleashing it in overwhelming fashion, suited this wonderfully positive and dramatic

Think yourself lucky. All over America dance companies turn at Christmas to hundreds and hundreds of productions of The Nutcracker as a sure-fire way of raking in audiences. Here we have more diversity, and David Bintley's Snow Queen serves the same purpose at Sadler's Wells as Cinderella at Covent Garden and the Festival Hall's Nuteracker.

Nice tunes,

gorgeous

waistcoat

As ever he cut a stylish dash,

threading his way across a stage that looked like a cross between

the sets of Raiders Of The Lost Ark

and a Duran Duran video.

Dressed in a Victorian paterfamil-

ias coat, patterned waistcoat,

pumps and white socks, the man

who once promised "to make the

But to think about what? So

much of Ferry's repertoire, like his

suave demeanour, was coated in a

hard, durable gloss that tended to

obscure depth of meaning as much

as it did any underlying faults. Most of the songs, new and old,

were bold musical designs nf

simple, sleek symmetry, huilt on

cyclical four or five chord se-

quences which ended in codas repeated ad infinitum. This was

the pattern of "Slave To Love", "Boys And Girls", "Kiss And Tell", "Avalon" and many others,

which once they had made their

initial statement seemed to exist

in a vacuum, bereft nf further

His band was a model of technical excellence with a might-ily quiffed guitarist, Jeff Thall,

ROCK

who looked like a refugee from

Blade Runner, and female backing

vocalists alluringly dressed in

slinky sequinned tubes and Aztec

Ferry's movements were a bit

creaky, but so far as one was able to tell, he seemed to be enjoying himself. There was no danger nf

him hreaking sweat as he sang in

that nver-stylized half-yawn half-

yodel, but in no time his dark hair

was flopping about his eyes and, as

well as a final encore of "Do The

Strand", the set was graced with a

fair smattering of old Roxy Music favourities. "Love Is The Drug"

suffered from a perfunctory vocal

performance, but "Ladytron",

from the first album, still suc-

ceeded in conjuring windswept

futuristic images, while the coldly

menacing tone of "In Every

Dream Home A Heartache" pro-

vided the one moment when there

was a palpable sense of drama

For better or worse, Ferry is the

man who first developed a credible strand of rock with an

upmarket designer tag on its coat-

tails. As he matures, the old battles

between style and content seem to

have been resolved in favour of a

timeless if rather bland elegance.

DANCE

from the stage.

pineapple head-dresses.

movement or development.

cognoscenti think" was at it again.

Bryan Ferry London Palladium

It is virtually the story of the fairy's kiss: a boy picked nut for doom while still a child. Bintley has shamelessly raided the variety of favourite ballets to provide inspiration for his incidents, and has welded them very efficiently in a colourful show.

A hig element in the ballet's success is the score, composed by Bramwell Tovey using music by Mussorgsky as his raw material. This provides a rich flow of melody, strong dance rhythms and a powerful atmosphere.

All the leading roles have three or four interpreters this week. I saw Chenca Williams as an elegantly austere Snow Queen and Petter Jacobsson as her innocent victim, at his best in the most ebullient and saddest moments.

His sweetheart Gerda was played by Bonnie Moore. There was a tightness about her shoul-ders which detracted from her otherwise proficient dancing. She acted with tearful earnestness when searching for her lost lover. but in the happy earlier scenes she lacked the warmth and conviction nf the company regulars.

John Percival

Republicans in the foyer

in which the BBC succeeded in interviewing Martin McGuinness of Sinn Fein — in a pox pop role as amateur theatre critic in a crowded foyer. It went to prove how narrow
is the dividing line between theatre
and politics in the work of Field
Day, the pioneering Irish company
which has been testing Irish myths
and traviting the country's past in and rewriting the country's past in its imaginative productions. (The Archbishop of Armagh also turned up in the foyer, pointing out their abow's factual inaccuracies about his predecessors in a jovially goodhumoured manner.)

"A Trojan horse in our midst" was how one spectator described onderry, in the Guildball

TELEVISION

which is crammed with images of England and the Union. In "Making History". Field Day tells the story of Hugh O'Neill, the 16th century chieftain who fought and lost a battle of Irish chieftains against Britain. The intercent is not against Britain. The interest is not just in his story but in what subsequent generations have made of it, for he has become a symbol of Irish nationalism, although he was educated and ennobled in England and was married to an English Protestant. His rebellion was abort lived, yet Irish history has made it bear a considerable weight.

The extracts we saw from Brian

Friel's play punched home this view of historical distortion by having O'Ncill debate with the Archbishop who was to be his first biographer. "But will you tell the truth?" "I'll try to tell the story . . . hut are truth and falsity. the proper criteria?"

Field Day, however, takes its investigations further than the stage by publishing pamphlets, tracts, and now, most ambitiously, an anthology of Irish writing from 550AD to the present. The company's work felt like a cold breath of some air on the complexity's work felt like a cold breath of sone air on the over-heated face of Ireland: "There's a hunger for whatever it is we're peddling," said Brian Friel.

William Holmes

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Beethoven: Symphony No 8

Academy of Ancient Music/Hogwood. L'Oiseau Lyre 421 416-2 (1 CD) Beethoven: Late Choral Music Ambrosian Singers, LSO/Tilson Thomas, CBS MK76404 (1CD)

Muti's complete set of Beethoven Symphotics, compiled in Philadelphia over the last three vears, would make a good Christmas present either for admirers of the Italian's high-powered mu-sicianship (of which there are many), or for those whn like Beethoven the old-fashioned way.

Massive orchestral sonorities, recorded in a broad, generalizing acoustic; tempos either orthodox or on the slow side; a strong emphasis oo orchestral discipline to which the Philadelphia Or-chestra responds with precision and power - these, rather than any unusual interpretative or spiritual characteristics, are the hallmarks of the set.

Muti often maintains an unnerving, metronomic rigidity throughout a movement; the First's finale works well like that (in a Rossinian overture sort of way), but the Eroica's first movement certainly does not: the refusal to slow even a fraction for the development's great climax and the plaintive oboe theme that follows robs the moment of its awe. Yet in the same symphony in the scherzo's trio - is a classic demonstration of how well the Philadelphian wind principals (a sweetly-blended bunch) seize the opportunity to phrase elegantly, if



Unusual choice and imaginative treatment: Michael Tilson Thomas conducts the LSO and the Ambrosian Singers in a collection of Beethoven's late choral works

they are given the space. The Scherzo of the Seventh is another place where lightness and a few deft phrasings bring welcome

Not one of the music world's most natural humorists, Muti seems to miss the wit and the buffo fun nf, for instance, the Fourth's finale, by pressing the textures too heavily; and his deadpan conception of the Partonna third more tion of the Pastoral's third movement brings a new meaning to the

words "peasants' merrymaking". The Fifth Symphony responds better to this massive, serious approach. But here, even though

the first movement is briskly paced, there is a sogginess about the rhythms. The Pastoral's first movement also rests too comfiriably on a smooth, sumptious upholstery of string sound; though Muti brings a crushing weight to bear effectively on the Storm.

Perhaps he is most successful in the Ninth. The first movement is colossally conceived — there is more than a hint of Verdi about the crushing development huildup, with timpani pounding omi-nously to the front of the orchestral balance - and Muti rampages through the scherzo.

(though his perky woodwind in the trio provide a neat contrast). But he handles the slow movement with great sensitivity and delicacy, and the finale is treated in a flexible, operatic scena style which seems cogent and

persuasive.
Solti's new recording of the
Fourth and Fifth Symphonies offers a revealing comparison with Muti, because Solti, too, favours extraordinarily sustained textures - every chord given its full metrical value and more - and a

more rhythmic bite, even within his majestically deliberate paring. Perhaps the Chicago strings are a shade more brilliant in attack; certainly the cellos and basses are given a fearsomely tubby presence on this recording. And in the Fnurth, the hustling passage work is delivered with exemplary clarity, for all the orchestral weight

To turn from these supercharged American orchestras to the period instruments of the Academy of Ancient Music, on thick string sound. But in the Fifth, Solti somehow finds much recording of the Sixth Symphony (Pastoral), is to enter a gentler.

and perhaps more innocent world. Hogwood does nothing remarkable, except to push the first movement along like a jolly twostep, but in its original in-strumental colours, the symphony suddenly seems a fresher experience - and an altogether less complicated work to interpret.

The slow movement occa-sionally lapses into blandness -more pasteurized than pastoral but later there is some superbly pert woodwind playing, particularly from the oboist. Frank de Bruine, and the storm is convincingly done, with hard-headed timpani sticks making a cracking

The most imaginative treatment of Beethoven in this batch of recordings, however - and the most unusual choice of music comes on Michael Tilson Thomas's collection of Late Choral Music. The largest item here is the incidental music Beethoven wrote in 1811 for Kotzehue's play Konig Stephan, which, because of the play's Hungariao nationalist context and because the performances opened a oew theatre io Budapest, has far more inuches of exoue colour than are usually found in Beethoven's music.

The lovely women's chorus prefaced by a flute solo over pizzicato strings seems as if it might belong in Aida, while the grandiose but odd Victory March - which starts with just two horns and timpani, then develops into a rumhustious orchestral romp harks back tn Handel and looks forward to Berlioz at the same

Tilson Thomas handles this rusic vividly, with plenty of rousing accelerandos, sudden crescendos and (from the Ambrosian Singers) much clipped, eff-ective articulation. The disc also contains the marvellously pic-torial Calm Sea and Prosperous Voyage, as well as choral pieces ranging in mood from the hymnlike Opperlied (Lorna Haywood admirahly steady in the soprano solo) to the jovial Bundeshed which, with its humptinus but enjoyable accompaniment for wind band and its "Student Prince" sort of tune, must have been the prototype for hundreds of later German choral songs, right up to Carl Orff, But Beethoven can hardly be blamed for that.

Richard Morrison

Strings have a bad name in jazz. Hardly anyone approved of Chartie Parker's aiso-andstrings sides in the early Fifties, even though they emphasized a particular as-pect of his personal lyricism; a couple of years ago, Wynton Marsalis's Hot House Flowers was generally said to be his worst recording to date, a judgement posterity may well stand on its head. In between times came the only withstrings session that everyone has a good word for: Stan Getz's Focus, composed and arranged by the great Eddie Sauter, whose originality all-

owed him to eliminate all the

clichés and create a universe

While Ian Carr does not quite achieve the heights of that masterpiece, "Northum-brian Sketches" - the 33soloists and string orchestra which is the centrepiece of Old Heartland — nevertheless is a very substantial work, in which he also manages to find a perfectly workable solution to the old problems of reconciling the pre-composed orchestral parts with the needs of the

He does it the hard way, too, without a rhythm section, gambling on his own ability to infuse his writing with suf-

Heart strings

JAZZ

lan Carr. Old Heartland (MMC Mark Wood: La Mezcla (MMC

ficient rhythmic vigour, and on the ability of the 17 young uns-icians of the Kreisler String Orchestra to interpret it.

The main soloists, Carr himself on trumpet and flägelhorn and Phil Todd on sovivacity on the first ("Open Country") and third movements, while Todd's bass clarinet is the highlight of the finale, "Spirit of Place", helprun out of ideas.

proportioned album consists of Carr's regular sextet, featur-ing his own passionate, tightly muted work on the at-

mospheric "Full Fathom Five" and the excitingly eloquest acoustic guitar of Mark Wood on "Old Heartland".

Wood gets an album to himself in La Mezcia, a set to please those whose interests encompass the more thoughtful end of jazz-rock fusion music. In his enthusiasm for diversity and love of melody, Wood probably most resembles Pat Metheny, but there is no similarity in their actual playing. Nor is there any interest in virtuosity for its own sake: you get the im-pressioo that if Wood got the sound he wanted from a cocoa tin and a baby's rattle, he'd

settle for that. Sometimes, as in a Penguin Café Orchestra-style homage prano saxophone and bass to South American music, the clarinet, reap the reward of the humour gets a little simplistic, orchestra's enthusiasm. The but elsewhere, in pieces inthere is much to enjoy. The bassist Chucho Merchan and the drummer Nic France are his rhythm team; the former ing to alleviate a feeling that King Crimson drummer Mich-Carr's writing is beginning to ael Giles acts as both producer ael Giles acts as both producer and percussionist, while the The balance of a generously trumpeter Dave DeFries, Wood's colleague in the quarthree pieces by Nucleus, tet Sunwind, makes a guest appearance.

Richard Williams

Reggae rhythms

ROCK

neatly topped and tailed and

often take that tugging cross-

The latest in a sequence of releases to mark the 25th anniversary last year of the founding of Chris Blackwell's Island Records is Pressure Drop, a seven-album collection of re-issued reggae ma-

terial. Those with the requisite £40 to spare will find this to be a well-ordered compilation that is consistently enlightening and in parts gloriously cotertaining. The earliest material, lo-

cated on alhums one and two. is the best by far. Organized is the best by far. Organized under the headings "R & B-Ja Style", "Ska" and "Rock Steady", it is effectively a guided tour of the jazz, R'o'B and soul antecedents of and soul antecedents of add "54-46 (That's My Number 1) and the Maytals "Pressure Drop" and "54-46 (That's My Number 1) and "Style". respac. The manufacturers apologize for the sound quality, since most of these older tracks were dubbed direct from disc, but one only has to hear the opening bars of Errol Dixon's "Mnrning Train" or

flung open and feel the warm-

ing rays of a tropical sun

ber)". the Jimmy Smith-style organ groove nn Jackie Mittoo's "Got My Bugaloo" in see a metaphorical window being

rhythm into the land of oversmooth schmaltz (for example Dennis Brown's "Sitting and Various Artists: Pressure Drop (Mango MBOX 25) Watching" or Jimmy Riley's

"Love and Devotion"). It seems vaguely insulting to collect all the female artists (except Millie Small) together An entire album is devoted to the work of Leslie Koog, who, as the copious notes in on one side almost as an afterthought, even if it does include Sheila Hylton skankthe accompanying booklet inform us, was a Jamaican record store owner-turneding woodenly through her lacklustre (hit) version of Sting's "The Bed's too Big producer. His commercially attuned ear did much to realize reggae's crossover po-Without You". tential and included here are But there is oo place for his productions of Desmond

reggae girls" at the thematie heart of the set: the album titled "Rasta", where that recownedly chauvinistic faith so central to the making of reggae music is celebrated. Here the languid, heavily Whole albums are also dedevotional style which Bob voted to the more eccentric Marley took to worldwide prodoction style of Lee success is well represented by "Scratch" Perry, whose bigtracks including Mariey & the Wailers' "Jah Live" (a close gest success was Junior Murvin's "Police and relative of his "No Woman Thieves", and to the produc-No Cry" hit) Aswad's "Rain-bow Culture", Steel Pulse's "Prodigal Son" and Black tion work of the veteran rhythm section Sly & Robbie. Their contributions tend to be Uhuru's "World Is Africa".



David Sinclair Soaring style: Toots Hibbert stirs it up in performance

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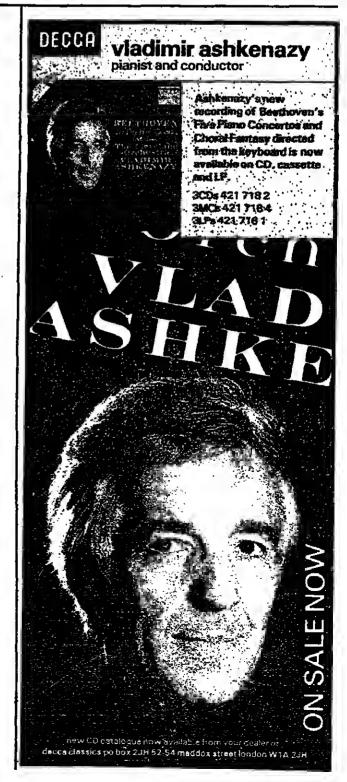
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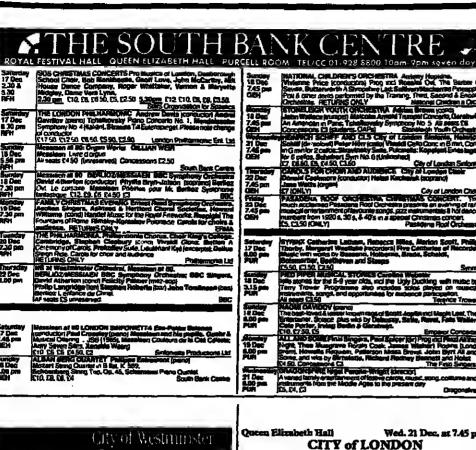
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Over 2400 elde-militing perty SMOULD MUN FOR LIFE" S. E.F.

Wed. 21 Dec. at 7.45 pm SINFONIA VIVALDI: Cella Concerto in B unnor Concerto for 2 cellos in G minor Concerto for 2 cellos in G minor Concerto for 2 cellos in G minor Policietà Suire Eines tages (for six cellos) Symphony No. 8 "Unfinished" HEINRICH SCHIFF director/soloist PETER HORR cellos [7, £6.50, £5, £4.50, £3.50 Box Office/CC 01-928 8800 The South Bank Centre presents Mozart's THE MAGIC FLUTE in English by The City of Birmingham Touring Opera QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL **DECEMBER 27, 29, 31 at 7.15** "CBTO's Flute is a landmark and will bring joy and light wherever it goes"... The Independent £15, £12, £8.50, £5 Box Office/CC 01-928 8800 **WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL** Thursday 22 December at 8.00pm

BERLIOZ/MESSIAEN **BBC** Symphony Orchestra DAVID ATHERTON FELICITY PALMER PHILIP LANGRIDGE STEPHEN ROBERTS JOHN TOMLINSON **BBC SINGERS** BERLIOZ L'Enfance du Christ All tickets (5 unreserved. Available from Royal Festival Hall Box Office (01-928 8800) and the evening of 21 December and roop 7.15put at the Cathodical on the night of the concert. To check availability on day of concert please ring 01-927 4523,

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RAYMOND GUBBAY presents at the BARBICAN Box Office/CC 01-638 8891 TUESDAY 27 DECEMBER at 3.38 p.m. **ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**

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Vivaldi THE FOUR SEASONS
Conductor: PHILIP LEDGER
JULIAN LLOYD WEBSER Cello JOSE-LUIS GARCIA violin
45-91, 57-91, 19, 101-91, 117-50 TUESDAY 27 DECEMBER at 745 p.m.

GILBERTAND SULLIVAN WITH THE NEW D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO Encaps from the Swoy Operar of Gilbert and Sullivas inc.
The Mikado; The Gondoline; H.M.S. Pienfore, Iolanthe;
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WEDNESDAY 28 DECEMBER at 3 p.m.

THE SNOWMAN

- Traditional Christmas performance of Howard Blake's award ning "The Snowman" featuring the hir-eingle, "Walking In The Air", plus his Nursery Rhyme Overture and the Scory of the Up and Down Man.

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FAMILY CLASSICS

J. STRAUSS: Die Finderman Overpung SOUSA: Washington
Poor, TCHAIROVSKE, Wales of the Flowers from "The
Noteracker"; BRUCH: Violes Concerns SUPPE: Light Cavalry
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LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA
introduced and Conducted by BRAMWELL TOVEY
LORGAINE MeASLAN violin

6.60, 175, 06, 101, 86, 101, 80, 102, 80 £6.50, £7.50, £9, £10,50, £11,50, £12,50

FRIDAY 30 DECEMBER at 7.45 p.m. DENNIS O'NEILL'S **OPERA GALA NIGHT**

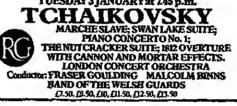
Prog. inc. VERDIE La Forza Del Dennao Overtune; Aria Genod March; La Travinas Brindias de Prelacies, Regoletimo E Sol del Anuma Una Ballo In Mascherta Forse La Sogiia Animae: Natucco Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves; Lussa Muller Quando La Ser Al Piscioto (ELLEA: La Giocondo Carlo E Marg. Mas Scaliforti, Cavelleria Russiciana Internezzo; PUCCERU. Giatani Schicci; O Mito Babbono Caro, Madama Botterily, Humming Chorus; La Boheno; Che Gelida manina, Si Mi Chismano Minti, O Souve Fancinale; Turandor Neeman Documa O ENNES O'NEELL Lencor JULIET BOOTE! Soprano LONDON CHORALE
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MONDAY 2 JANUARY at 3 and 7.45 p.m MUSIC AND DANCE FROM THE BALLET

TCHAIROVSET: The Nontracker Suite inc. Gamd Pas de Deux", Sugar Phon
Fairy" and Tarsmella", Swan Lake (excerpts) use. White Swan Pas De Deux";
Skerping Bendy Walez, Rimehy-Komainov Scheherazzde (theme); ADAM:
Gaselle Passan Pas de Deux; MENDELES SOUIN: Noctume (A Abdomniary
Night's Dream); KREISLER: The Dregonily"; HEROLD: Clog Dance from
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OBCHESTRA OF THE SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET
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MARGARET BARBIERI, KAREN DONOVAN,
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SATURDAY 7 JANUARY at 8 p.m. THE PHILHARMONIA

Mozart.....MARRIAGE OF FIGARO OVERTURE Schubert.......SYMPHONY No 8 (UNFINISHED) Beethoven PIANO CONCERTO No S (EMPEROR) RONAN O'HORA piz

TUESDAY 24 JANUARY at 7.45 p.m. **SPANISH EVENING** RIMSKY KORSAKDY: Capticio Espagnole; BIZET: Carme Suire ROORIGO: Concietto De Apatiene; FALLA: Three Dane from the Three Concered Har, CHABRIER: Espaine; RAVEL: Bolero LONDON CONCERT OR CHESTRA

Conductor ANTHONY INGLIS CARLOS BONELL guitar 16-30, 67-30, 49, 40-30, 402, 403, 50 at the ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

NEW YEAR'S DAY at 3.15 and 7.30 p.m. JOHANN STRAUSS GALA NIGHT

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A modificant Vicinica welcome to the New Yor with must by the
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3.15 perf. £4.50, £6.50, £8.50, £10.50, £12.50

2.36 perf. £6.50, £8, £9.50, £11, £12.50, £13.50

FRIDAY 20 JANUARY at 730 p.m. THE ROMANCE OF TCHAIKOVSKY
ROMEO AND IGLIST OVERTURE: PIANO CONCERTO
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THREE NEW YEAR GALA CONCERTS with the ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

TUESDAY 27th DECEMBER 7.30

GRAND OPERA NIGHT

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SATURDAY 31st DECEMBER 7.30 TCHAIKOVSKY BAND OF THE SCOTS GUARDS
Introduct a malts ANTION HORKINS SA. PHILIP MARTIN
Suite Swan Lake. "Skeepies Beauty Walte, Phano Concerto No.1,
Marche Makitarie. Nincracker Suite OverTurke 1812"
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SUNDAY 1st JANUARY 7.30 VIENNESE NEW YEAR GALA
OF MUSIC AND DANCE
STARS OF THE SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET
CORDUCTOR OF ORMSBY WILKINS
JOHANN STRAUSS: OF Flothermans, Cuckoo Pollea, Trivach
Trastech Pollea, Emperor Waltz, Expansan March, Romanante
Waltz & Pan de Denn, from Graduation Hall, Tales, from the
Vienna Woods Waltz, Thumder & Lachtraing, Polla, Voices of
Spring Waltz, Bue Dumle Waltz, LEHAR, Gold & Schert Waltz;
LANNER: New Year Galop: WALDTEUFEL: Sharter's Waltz.

Tichers: 15.50 57.50 £10 £12.50 £14.50 from Box Office Royal Albert Hall 01-589 \$212 cc 01-569 9465 ox Hostine 91-379 4444 Open All Hours no bly fee

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BOOKS

French lessons in love

John Ardagh on Fernand Braudel's

passionate tribute to his homeland

he eve of La Révolu-tion's much-trumpeted bicentenary year seems an aptly ironic moment to be reviewing this posthumous work by a man who has been called "the greatest of Europe's historians". For Braudel always disdained the classic view of history based on politics and "hig" events, preferring to see the past in terms of trade, geography, and local factors. He disliked the tendency of so many historians to measure France by the Revolution and to treat it as "a sort of sacred text"; and he was irked, so he says, by "the drastic curtailing of chronology" that this implies— As if history did not reach back into the mists of time! . . . as if our villages were not already taking root in our soil in the third millennium before Christ".

The state of the s

Indeed, in the best Braudelian manner this book abandons chronology and roams freely between the present and the near and distant pasts, so that the Treaties of Yalta (1945) and Verdun (843) come almost in the same sentence. Braudel was already 79 when in 1981 he began his planned four-volume The Identity of France — a bold undertaking at that age. He died four years later, with just two of the books completed. His stated aim was "to look at the entire. history of France in the light of the various social sciences in turn," and in this first part, History and Environment, his accent is firmly on geography. It is a scholarly work, of course, but also a highly personal book — his triumphant swan-song, a hymn of love to his native land which he has adored with a "demanding and complicated passion". And it is this enthusiasm and warmth of feeling, together with his originality of visioo and powerful intelligence, that carry the reader along despite the many repetitions and overdetailed longueurs that are maybe

by-products of old age. The title. The Identity of France, is a shade misleading, for in this volume at least Braudel does not seek to analyse the essence of Frenchness, nor what it is that On the contrary, his major theme

is the "diversity" and "pluralism"

of the French "jigsaw" - a

It must be said that there is n

flavour of barrel-scraping about this collection, put out not by Roy

Jenkins's usual publisher but by a

smaller house opportunistically

(one suspects) sweeping up some

of his lesser writings. Jenkins's

wish to preserve them is under-

standable. But he might have done

better to wait till be had enough to

posed of book reviews, topped up

with some more substantial es-

says, some shorter snippets, and a

couple of his ceremonial speeches as Chancellor of Oxford. The reviews have been skilfully dis-

guised by the removal of most of

the comment specific to the book

that provided the original peg for,

Jenkins's reflections on each sub-

ject. But the recasting is in some instances awkward, while the choice of subjects is somewhat

The collection is mainly com-

fill a whole book.

diversity that he sees as even more "exuberant" and "obstinate" than that of England, Germany, or Italy. He traces it back to climate and geography, and to the fact that the early immigrations came both from the north-east and the south-indeed, is not France the only West European country that belongs both to North and to South, alike physically and in her life-styles and ethnic origins? And historically the greatest gulf within France is of course that between the two rival civilizations of the langue d'oc and the langue d'oeuil:
Braudel describes how Raine,
Mérimée, and other northerners
felt themselves "in a foreign
country" when visiting the Midi, where they could not understand

the language, and he produces this splendid quote, dated 1872, from the Breton scholar Ernest Renan:

The similarity between England and northern France appears increasingly clear every day. Our foolishness comes from the South, and if France had not drawn Languedoc and Provence into her sphere of activity, we should be a serious, active, Protestant, and parliamentary people."

Braudel also traces diversity down to the most local levels. In

the late 18th century there were still at least 30 patois in France (only in Paris was "proper" French spoken), and the jumble of measurements was such that one area had 17 different sizes of arpens (roughly an acre).

ost-1789 rulers, notably Bonaparte, then sought to impose order on this chaos, with some success. But today, despite all the modern industrial pressures and the decline of local languages, costumes, and folk traditions, braudel still feels cheerfully confident that French diversity, though weakened, is not lost—"there is no such thing as a typical French village", for there are still "a thousand Frances".

So where does French unity lie? What is this "la France", with her unique personality, that so many Frenchmen have loved as if she were a sentient being? Braudel gives no easy answer. He allows that France has natural frontiers (the Pyrenees, Alps, and Rhine, and two major coastlines), but



claims that from Roman times until 1789 these played little part in French consciousness, whereas the Rhône was often the true eastern frontier. He suggests that French unity grew slowly out-wards from Paris and its basin, and agrees with Michelet that before 1789 "only the old provinces around Paris identified themselves with France". In more modern times, the French sense of unity has grown through the defence of its eastern frontier, so

often invaded: is it a coincidence that de Gaulle, that arch-patriot, came from Lille, near the border? Perhaps the strongest chue that he drops to the elusive French identity is when, on several occasions, he describes France as "a meeting-place and epitome of Europe". For example, when discussing family structure, he notes: "The nuclear family covers the whole of Britain, the stemfamily (authoritarian) has predominated in the German world, and the patriarchal (extended clan-like) family in Italy; only

THE IDENTITY OF FRANCE Vol. I, History & Environment By Fernand Brandel Collins, £20

France has contained all three at once." This idea of France as the epitome of Europe seems to lie at the heart of the matter, despite the special flavour of its life-styles, French society in numerous instances represents a happy medium between the extremes of Britain, Germany, and Italy - for example, between British in-

formality and German formality. Braudel's remarks on the family derive in part from the recent work of two young sociologists, Hervé Le Bras and Emmanuel Todd - and the veteran historian is always generously ready to quote and give credit to the work of younger specialists. He has bequeathed us a lively and pleasantly unchauvinistic book, firmly

relating France to its neighbours. And my only major reservation is that his case-histories of certain towns (Roanne and Metz, for example) tend to be over-stuffed with minor detail of little interest except to specialists, albeit enlivened with quirkily esoterie maps. On the other hand, I was fascinated by Braudel's chapter on memorial I was describing home mercurial Lyons, describing how the city's commercial superiority over Paris in the 16th century was later cut down by rapacious

centralism.

Those who expect clear-cut conclusions on the French identity could be disappointed by this book. Perhaps these were being left ont for the fourth volume, which alas we shall never see. Or maybe (I have not yet read the French original) some will feature in the second volume, People and Production, which Collins have scheduled for 1990. In the meantime, we have to get through 1989, which promises to be yawafully rich in media clichés about tumbrils and tricoteuses.

Putting the boot in Shakespeare

A book like this comes along once in a decade. It is difficult to do it iustice in a review: too spacious, too original, too controversial, Some of Rozanov, perhaps Breda's La trahison des clercs, certainly Orwell's essays, E.M. Cioran come to mind. It is a slim volume: in an age when books, like newspaper supplements on Sunday, gorge themselves on banalities of the moment, some are thin, their intellectual musculature clearly defined. But what makes it such a rarity, after all, is the courage of its convictions.

After its publication in France, La défaite de la pensee was greeted in Le Figaro as the work of an independent spirit", and as "running counter to intellectual fashion" in L'Express.

Yet it is equally clear that the spirit of its author is all but powerless befure the cul-tural trends that dominate our own fin de siècle. Encouraging as it is, the attention that this indictment of contemporary culture has been receiving is obviously dis-proportionate to its vital importance as a spiritual challenge, a view of history, and even a social cure for the times. In a curious way, this only enhances the valid-

ity of its argument.

The Undoing of Thought traces the evolution of nur cultural world view from the Enlightenment to this day, in an attempt to isolate the origins of the many "particu-larisms" that have replaced the human universals once cham-

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this

pioned by the philosophes of the

FICTION Dangerous in Love, by Leslie Thomas (Penguin, £2.99) Dangerous Davies, the most incompetent detective in the world, investigates corpse and drug-smuggling in West London, more than distracted by lovely Jamma Duval, supported by the dog Kitty.

Heroes, by Festus Iyayi
(Longman, £3.95) Winner of this
year's Commonwealth Writers
Prize: Nigerian novelist's story of
innocent civilians caught in the
crossfire of a corrupt and
murderous African civil war, The Golden Droplet, by Michel Toumier, translated by Barbara Wright (Methuen, £3.95) Young Berber goatherd travels to Paris from Algeria in search of the materialism of the West, and a beautiful blonde who took his

photograph in the desert, but broke her promise to send him a copy. The Killing of Yesterday's Children, by M. S. Power (Abacus, £3.99) Vol 1 of "Children of the North" Ulster thriller trilogy: Provos and RUC, Brits and Irish in st, land of sirens, burnt-out buildings, and wasteland, and a boy killer grown too fond of his trade, and a disgraced British diplomat to whom there is more than meets the eye.

Three Continents, by Ruth Prawer Jhabvata (Penguin, £4.99) Spoilt, rich, idealistic, young American twins seem perfect suckers for the sinister, Bagwash guru, and his Sixth World Movement for extracting money from the soggy-minded. Clash of cultures, races, and sexes. NON-FICTION Easy Money, by David Spanier

PAPERBACKS

18th century. The reason whydoubts were first cast upon "universal" man and the reason wby "the great concerts for Ethiopia financed the deportations of the very people they were supposed to feed" are not unrelated in M. Finkielkraut's mind. The connections are made with brilliant erudition, at a pace that takes one's breath away. This is how history should be written, and

The middle section of the book, "Generous Betra-Andrei Navrozov

THOUGHT

Cloridge Press, £6.95

yal". is a case study of the United Nations as a specimen THE UNDOING OF source of 20th-cen-' tury cultural absur-By Alain Finkielkraut dities now threa-tening to destroy nur very ability to

reason. It was its UNESCO arm, for instance, that commissioned the anthropologisi Claude Levi-Strauss to develop the organization's position on "Race and History" in 1951. Today, the UN remains an earnest spokesman for every ethnic prej-udice, opposing the universal liberal values forged long before the French Revolution because

they are "racist".
"'All cultures are equally legitimate and everything is culture' is the common cry of the affluent society's spoiled children and of the detractors of the West," writes the author in a chapter entitled "A Pair of Boots is as Good as Shakespeare". For all who think that Shakespeare is better, The Undoing of Thought is the book to read.

QUICK GUIDE



(Abacus, £3.99) Inside the gambler's mind with clever, interate expert who argues that gambling is good for you. Letters, by C. S. Lewis (Fount, £5.95) From God to literature and back again, without coming to serious conclusion, by the gruff old thing.

Shanghai Journal, by Neale Hunter (Oxford, £5.95) Hardback of 1969, account of the early days of the Cultural Revolution in Shanghai, seat of power of the "Gang of Four", where the author taught English at the Shanghai Foreign Languages Institute. The Myriad Faces of War, by Trevor Wilson (Polity Press, 214.95) Huge study of military, political, and social history of Britain in the First World War by Professor of History at the University of Adelaide.

Gaps in the gallery

John Campbell

GALLERY OF 20TH CENTURY PORTRAITS By Roy Jenkins Dovid & Charles, £12.95

random, parasitical as it is on the almost uniquely combines historibooks of others. That said, there is much to cal knowledge with personal enjoy, because Roy Jenkins does experience, moving so effortlessly over the whole century of British (and American) politics, seem-ingly on equally familiar terms with Asquith, Campbell-Banner-man and Franklin Roosevelt as write so well. If he sometimes verges on self-parody, that is a pleasure in itself. Perhaps in his exclusive concentration on biography - lovingly pinning his with Jim Callaghan, Jack Ken-nedy and Tony Benn, that his specimens with a finely-polished phrase and carefully ranking them judgements, even when entirely conventional, have a ring of authenticity that compels respect. in order of performance in their class — he is more like an entomologist than an historian. Nevertheless there is a special intimacy in his portraits of Hugh but it is a good dinner party game, and no one plays it better. He

Gaitskell (interestingly modified by the publication of his diaries) and Tony Crosland, and in his generous tribute to much-maligned George Brown ("He had vision. He was a good friend. He cnhanced life").

He also has a wonderful eye for the odd detail. Who else would spot that Keynes's Westminster Abbey memorial service was "almost unique for being attended by both his parents"? Or that Edward Grey had never been to Europe before be felt it necessary to visit Paris! He is at his shrewdest in noting Macmillan's insecure tendency to ape de Gaulle instead of standing up to him, and similarly to lapse into phoney Ike-speak when writing to Eisenhower.

But the gaps in Lord Jenkins's gallery are frustrating. Only partly because there have been no biog-raphies to review, he barely mentions in any of these essays - even in one reviewing Prime Ministers from Asquith to the present either the Prime Minister under whom he himself sat in Cabinet for seven years, Harold Wilson (is it hard for him now to acknowledge how close they were from 1967 to 1970?), or that other modern enigma with whom his career has intertwined so closely, from Balliol to the 1975 referendum, Edward Heath, I hope he is saving his considered view of these two for his memoirs.

Next week on the Books Page: Fiona MacCarthy writes about the · circus monk Ruth Stungo on Alpine gardening



Women who get their men

Carintia Carlyle is a splendid recruit to the fast-growing club of bright, funny, sexy, tough yet vulnerable American female pri-vate eyes. She's Boston, six feet tall, ex-cop and ex-cabbie, keeps an interesting cat and plays a mean game of volleyball. She's hired by an elderly lady to find her missing brother, and stumbles into gang politics with an IRAangle. On the evidence of Carlyle's first appearance, Linda Barnes may soon join Sara Paretsky and Sue Grafion on the top tier of female shamus creators.

Grafton (Macmillan, £9.95).
Smashing Californian sleuthess
Kinsey Millhone, unexplained
money in her bank account, is the victim of a set-up, necessitating some heavy and dangerous in-quiries into a warehouse fire, a fatal bombing, and a rich but unhappy family with simmering secrets. Grafton on form yet again; five Kinseys so far and no duds.

 Death Mask, by Jane Dentinger (Gollanc., £11.95). Fund-raising special performance of Mojor Barbara marred by death of nasty actor, and impleasant things start happening to sparky actress-director and investigator Jocelyn O'Roarke. Lively, believably bitchy, theatrical background with superior detection and love interest. Altogether enjoyable.

 Body of Opinion, by Staynes & Storey (The Bodley Head, £10.95). Pop megastar's party ends with bimbo's dead body in bed, except that she was no bimbo and had been shot by two different guns. The sympathetic Inspector Bone, recently widowed tragically, investigates while trying to bring up his teenage daughter. Good array, of motives, suspects, and wit. This is the authors' third collaboration, and their best.

● Laughing Dog, by Dick Lochte (Mocmillan, £11.95). Welcome return of the witty detective duo, the precocious Serendipity (now aged 15), and her mentor, veteran Los Angeles private eye Leo Bloodworth. As in Sleeping Dog. the device of allowing the two unlikely colleagues to tell their stories alternately works wonder-

CRIME **Marcel Berlins**

A TROUBLE OF FOOLS By Linda Barnes Hodder & Stoughton, £10.95

fully, and their two intriguing tales - starting with tracing an old actress's jewellery and a runaway teenager respectively - en-compass a wealth of ebullient writing, fast action, and spot-on characterization. • Murders and Acquisitions, by Haughton Mnrphy (Collins, £9.95). Reuben Frost, retired Wall

teur 'tec, on hand as a hostile takeover bid for a giant food chain splits a family and leaves a couple of corpses. Satisfying merger of traditional detection and post-Boesky financial machinations, all of them most clearly explained. ● Double Whammy, by Carl Hisasen (Century, £12.95). High-

Street lawyer turned urbane ama-

powered cheating in Florida's luctative bass fishing industry leads to bizarre death and the involvement of eccentric, pugna-cious private eye, R.J. Decker. Sharp bumour, energetic action, and a supporting cast of welldrawn weirdos make this one of the most imaginative, zippy, and fun to read capers of the year.

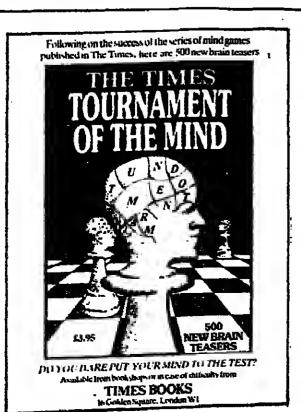
● A Kiss of Fire, by Masako Togawa (Chatto & Windus £11.95). Tense, complex, chillingly atmospheric hunt for a homicidal arsonist in Tokyo with the solution buried in a distant children's friendship. Togawa has been described as the Japanese P.D. James, but her portrayal of obsession and evil is psychologically closer to Ruth Rendell.

 A hefty recommendation for the No Exit Press vintage crime series, reissues of some of the best, unjustly neglected, "hard-boiled" writers of the Thurties and Forties - Jonathan Latimer, Raoul Whitfield, Paul Cain, and Howard Browne (£9.95 each). A reminder that Chandler and Hammett weren't the only tough guys



TRAVELLERS' TALES GREAT WEDDINGTON

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WEATHER EYE

Patterns of snow

The recent spate of north-westerly winds has brought susprisingly dry and mild weather, when colder, snowier conditions might have been expected (W. J. Burroughs writes).

The lowlands do not get a great deal of snow. The average number of days each year when snow is lying ranges from less than five in London and the south-west to 10 to 20 days in the north-east of England and Eastern Scotland. The figures for upland areas are

These figures disguise an odd distribution in that many years will feature little or no appreciable falls, while a few exceptional years have had snow lying for long periods. In the winter of 1962/63, snow lay in many parts of south-ern England for between 50 and 70 days. Another source of variability is that snow often falls without settling in low-lying areas.

There are two principle weather patterns that bring widespread snowfalls to the British Isles. The first is when there is high pressure to the west of the country and low essure moving down either the North Sea or across into southern

Scandinavia.
This brings cold northerly winds from the Arctic down across the country. Because this icy air has crossed relatively warm water. it is a mass of convective activity which produces frequent, heavy snow showers, especially in the north and down the east-coast as far as Kent.

Sometimes these arctic outbursts produce more lengthy periods of snow. It occurs when the shower clouds form a more organized weather system, often termed a "polar low".

The other important combination is a cold anti-cyclone to the north or east of the country and a depression pushing in from the south or west. Where these two weather systems meet, a zone of heavy snow develops. If the depression comes to a halt or veers away to the cootinent then much of southern England can be blanketed in thick snow.

Most of the historic storms in southern England resulted from this meteorological combination. The regioo of heavy snowfalls is often a narrow band between large weather systems. As a consequence, forecasting precisely where this band will occur is difficult, and so deep snow usually catches us all by surprise.

THEATRE

LONDON

BETTY'S HOLIDAY CAMP: Songs and sketches by female trio, Betty. Albany Empire, Douglas Way, SE8 (01-691 3333), Opens Tues, Until Fri. Transfers to the Purcell Room, South Bank, SE1 (01-928 8800) from Dec 27

THE LEGEND OF ROBIN HOOD: solo comedy performance (by Peter Wear), with a "cast" of 40. Gate Theetre Club, above Prince Albert pub., 11 Pembridge Road, W11 (01-229 0706). Opens Wed. PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE:

Théâtre de Complicité in their "Christmas nightmare". Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (01-359 4404). Opens Mon. Until Fri. WHALE NATION: Roy Hutchins's solo performance of the poem by

Heathcote Williams.
Institute of Contemporary Arts,
Nash House, The Mail, SW1 (01930 3647). Opens Mon (when
Heathcote Williams will also read
Falling for a Dolphin). Until Fri.

THE WIZARD OF OZ: Revival of lan Judge's RSC production of John Kane's adaptation from the MGM musical. Barbican (01-638 8891). Previews from today. Opens Wed.

OUT OF TOWN

MANCHESTER: Arms and the Man: Paul Herzberg, Catherine Russell, Malcolm Rennie and Adrien Lukis, directed by Casper Wrede, In Shaw's romantic comedy. Royal Exchange (061 833 9833). Opens Thurs.

MARGATE: Aladdin: Theatre reopens with a show starring Trevor Bannister, Billy Boyle, John Boulter and Stacey Doming. Theatre Royal (0843 221913). Opens Thurs.

SOUTHAMPTON: Cinderella: Paul Nicholas, Roy Walker and Dame Hilda Bracket. Mayflower (0703 330083). Opens

FILMS

THE WIZARD OF SPEED AND TIME (PG): Feature-length showcase for the talents of American special effects creator Mike Jittlov, who writes, directs and appears as himself, struggling to fulfil a crucial TV commission. ICA Children's Cinema (01-930 3647), from Sat.

CONCERTS

CHRIST'S CHILDHOOD; Stephen Cleobury conducts the ECO, Choir of King's College, Cambridge and soloists in L'Enfance du Christ by Barbican Centre, Silk St, London EC2 (01-638 8891). Today, 7.45pm.

STILL MORE BERLIOZ: David Atherton conducts the BBC SO, BBC Singers and soloists in Berlioz's *L'Enfance du Christ*. Westminster Cathdral (01-928 8800), 8pm £5.

Playing for the aid of Armenia



World class: Mstislav Rostropovich and other musicians play in aid of the Armenian Earthquake Appeal

Appeal will be held at the Barpican Hall at 11pm. Apart from a deduction for VAT the full ticket price will go to the Red Cross. A ished list of soloists, led by the great Russian cellist Mstislav Rostropovich (left) and James Galway are playing with the English Chamber Orchestra, conducted by André Previn. The includes the slow movement of Bachiauas Brasileiras No. 1, and the Russian soprano, Galina Vishaevskaya, Rostropovich's wife, singing from her Lieder repertoire. Andrei Gavrilov, the prize-winning Soviet pianist, will play work by Mozart's Fantasie in D Minor and Chopin's Etnde (Opas 10) No 12. In order to help travel in the early homs help travel in the early hours Berryhurst Pic have donated two ter coaches to take concert goers from the Barbican to Trafalgar Square and Victoria; taxis will be available. The concert will be broadcast simultaneously on BBC 2 and Radio 3 at 11pm tonight. Barbican Centre, London EC2 (01-638 8891), 11pm, £12.50. Andrew Billen

Tonight, after just seven days after the British Association of Concert

Agents conceived the idea, a world

class concert in aid of the British

Red Cross Armenian Earthquake

by Francoise Legrand. Barbican Centre, Silk St, London, EC2 (01-638 4141).

and the same

RADIO

VIOLETTE: Play by Ray Jenkins about Emile Zola's exile in England and his 16-year-old housekeeper, the Violette of the title. Radio 4, Mon, 6.15-9.30pm.

TESS OF THE D'URBERVILLES: Kenneth Haigh begins a 20-part reading of Thomas Hardy's dark tale of a pure woman destroyed by heartless morality and cruel men. Radio 4, Mon, 10.15-10.30pm.

FILMS ON TV

SWEET DREAMS (1985): First TV showing for Karel Reisz' underrated study of the country and western singer Patsy Cline, memorably played by Jessica Lange. BBC2, Wed, 9.40-11.30pm.

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METROPOLIS (1926): Fritz Lang's famous vision of a city of robots, in its restored tinted version with rock score by Giorgio Moroder. Start of a Channel 4 Lang season. Channel 4, Fri, 10.25pm-12.25am.

THE WOMAN IN THE WINDOW (1944): Lang's fine American thriller with Edward G. Robinson as a mild professor sucked into blackmail and murder. Channel 4, Fri, 12.25-2.15am.

TELEVISION



POISON CANDY: Complex thriller from writer-director Anthony Simmons with John Hurt (above) and Karen Young as a couple terrorized by two nasty nine-year-olds in Florida. BBC1, Wed, 9.30-11pm.

THE RUTH RENDELL CHRISTMAS MYSTERY: George Baker as Chief Inspector Wexford, investigating the case of swopped babies. ITV, Fri, 8.30-10pm.

Theatre: Tony Patrick; Films: Geoff Brown; Concerts: Max Harrison; Opera: Hilary Finch; Rock; David Sinclair; Jazz: Clive Davis; Dance: John Percival; Galleries; David Lee; Photography: Mike Young, Television, Radio and Fluss on TV: Peter Waymark

MORE BERLIOZ: The BBC SO is conducted by David Atherton in Berlioz's Le Corsaire Overture, Symphonia Fantastique and in en's *Poèmes pour Mi* (Phyllis Bryn-Julson, soprano). Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 8800). Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

SAVE CHILDREN: Graham Oppenheimer makes his London debut with a concert in aid of the Save the Children Fund, playing viola sonatas by Hindemith, Shostakovich, pieces by Enescu and Debussy. This is the Wigmore Hall's last concert before

Wigmore Hall. Tues, 7.30pm. CORELLI CHRISTMAS: COREIE'S

Christmas Concerto opens this concert by the Orchestra of St John's under John Lubbock. The so-called Albinoni Adaglo follows, then Britten's St Nicholas Cantata and carols for audience and St John's, Smith Sq. London SW1 (01-222 1061). Wed, 7.30pm.

OPERA ROYAL OPERA HOUSE: Handel's Semele returns to Covent Garden on Thurs (7pm) with Sir Charles Mackernas conducting. Tonight,

Tues and Fri (7.30pm) Nuria Espert's new production of Rigoletto continues its run.

Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066)

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA ENO offers a typically imaginative alternative to the customary seasonal fare in David Pountney's new production of Rimsky-Korsakov's Christmas Eve, the first British staging of the fairy tale opera. Albert Rosen conducts tonight, Tues and Thurs at 7.30pm. Jonathan Miller's Mikado continues on Mon, Wed and Fri also at 7.30pm. Collseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161).

ROCK

THE ALARM: Recently toured with Dylan, and now share the same

Tonight, SECC, Glasgow (041 248 3000); tomorrow, Northgate Arena, Chester (0244 380444); Mon, Aston Villa Sports and Leisure Centre (021 328 4884); Wed, Brixton Academy, London SW9 (01-326 1022).

DURAN DURAN: Returning to promote their Big Thing album and new single "All She Warts is". Tues, Barrowlands, Glasgow (041 552 4601); Thurs, Town & Country, London (01-284 0303); Fri, Wermbley Arens, Middlesow (04 Wembley Arena, Middlesex (01– 902 1234), Sat, NEC, Birmingham (021 780 4133).

LEVEL 42: Perennial techno-pop funk fusioneers. Wed and Thurs, NEC, Birmingham (021 780 4132).

DANCE

BALLET: Two more performances

of The Snow Queen today. Then (Mon-Wed) Petrushka and a

revised version of Bintley's Choros together with Lynn Seymour's Bestet. Monique Loudieres from

Paris and Gheorge lancu from Rumania dance *Giselle* on Thurs, Marion Tait and Roland Price, Fri. Sadler's Wells (01-278 8916).

ROYAL BALLET: Nicola Roberts

dances Cinderalla Wed afternoon and Wendy Eilis Wed evening. Covent Garden (01-240 1066).

JAZZ

SUE SHATTOCK: Arquably the

N16 (01-359 4936) Fri,

most interesting vocalist to appear in recent years, backed by a brisk electric band led by Terry Disley. Bass Clef, London N1 (01-729 2476) Thurs; Jazz Cale, London

SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL

SOUTH BANK PICTURE SHOW: An open competition of works showing London life as seen by both amateur and professional Royal Festival Hall, London SE1 (01-921 0600). From Tues.

CAREL WEIGHT RA: An 80th birthday exhibition of paintings describing strange suburban goings-on. Metropole Arts Centre, Folkestone (0303 55070). From Today.

GALLERIES

THE EXPERIENCE OF LANDSCAPE: Paintings. photographs and drawings from the Arts Council's collection showing the varied responses to landscape by major British artists over the last 40 years. City Art Centre, Edinburgh (031 225

2424). From Today.

PHOTOGRAPHY

JACQUE HENRI-LARTIGUE: Wonderful pictures from a hedonist whose love of life and women shines from every photograph. The Photographers Gallery, Print Room, 5 & 6 Great Newport St, London, WC2 (01-831 1772). PARIS - THE ESSENTIAL CITY: A

COURTNEY PINE: A one-off from the young sexophonist, rounding off a relatively quiet year. La Prison, London N16 (01-923 0775) Thurs. private view of what many consider the most romantic city in the world

OUTDOOR LEISURE

The treasures of the tide

Gareth Huw Davies meets the men

who value what others discard

Even on the Thames rough weather, an exceptionally low winter tide or a skidding boat hull will reveal briefly relics competing to be found, then hiding for ever. They are offered to the keen, down-cast eyes of men such as Ron Goode, who has walked the mud opposite Wapping police station for seven years.

Ron found a whale bone on the foreshore at Bermondsey. What was a whale doing in the Thames? "Simple," says Ron.
"Surrey Docks used to be a whaling station. The Museum produces another booe:
"Don't know what this is yet.
Too large for a cow or
anything like that. Probably
an elephant." An elephant?
"From a circus."

In Ron's small waterside museum in Docklands we museum in Docktanus we admire marbles, toys, knives, implements of crime, Jew's passenger service.

He did sell one find, a 17thcoins out of pockets, clay pipes thrown away and a fleat comb. Ron now has tangible proof that Higgs existed—in u medal awarded by London County Council for punctual

attendance in 1905. Army and the RAF; and buttons from the Air Raid Patrol. Buttons? "There was a

Winter storms cast up an They used to dash out to a unpredictable bounty around boat, fiddling with their jackthe coasts, creating high sca-son for the beachcomber. Musket balls. A skirmish? "Lead works up the river."

Ron is one of the last of the old beachcombers. He shuns the metal detector: "There is so much iroo down there, and I might miss other things, such as bottles and clay pipes." He has found a Julia Au-

gusta denarius; he has coins from Nero, Hadrian and the Emperor Napoleon. He points out Charles II, in sharp detail; the gaunt heads of William and Mary gazing resolutely right. There are love tokens, defaced and bent. Some finds hint at painful

of London keeps asking me if I loss: "I turned over a stone have found a harpoon." He and there was this George III halfpenny. I turned over a stone almost next to it and there was another, same date. The person lost both together. Probably a week's wages." There are hazards. Recently

Ron found a live Second World War incendiary, prob-

and thee my comfort be." But he says: "I'm oot in it for value. The only satisfaction is There are badges from the when I find a coin or a badge I Rotherhithe, Surrey, 23rd Ri-haven't found before. You fle Volunteers, 1861; the US never know what the tide is going to fetch up next."

At Minnis Bay near Mar-Patrol. Buttons? "There was a gate I meet Fred Booth, who is jetty next to a row of ARP interested in a different tidal And barnacle eggs. Here's a bit cottages at Trinty Wharf, treasure, Fred is up to his of serrated wrack. And horn Peterborough PEI 1UA



Urban bounty-hunter: Ron Goode scours the Thames shore wrack - that often has a lemony smell."

tionist. "If you can stand the smell, you will find it very interesting," says Fred. "Sea-weed has an important biological function, returning minerals to the sea. And a lot of insects feed and breed on the strand line."

We step over the detritus mangled plastic cups, shreds of orange oct, tangles of blue fishing line, robust white disinfectant coutainers, made to last. Fred extracts some oarweed. Four feet long, like a polished leather slashed into tresses, it was torn out of the deep sea.

With his eye glass he roves over the displaced plants and Further details on Coastwatch creatures still clinging to their from Coastwatch Co-ordi-

calves in gently rotting sea-weed, the staple material of the beachcomber as conserva-The Marine Conservation Society is asking people to

concentrate harder oo seaweeds and sea creatures. All around our 5,000-mile coastline volunteers have been mapping the shore and recording the wildlife in Coastwatch, the largest survey undertaken of Britain's beaches.

Fred once found what every beachcomber yearns for, a bottle with a message. It was not a plea from a marooned sailor but an experiment by a researcher in the North-East testing longshore drift. What beachcombing loses in romance, it gains in precision.

nator, Nature Conservancy Council, Northminster House,

Salcombe, scene of seabird solitude

WEEKEND WALK

The guide book of 1856 reported that the coastlines

around Salcombe, Devon, were almost as unknown as those of Kamschatka". Today, especially in winter, there are still you, the rancous gulls and guillemots and solitade, writes Richard Shurey.

The smart set act out Houard's Way roles around their estuarial boats and iuns - but put your car in the Shapitor National Trust car park and within a few steps the restless world is left behind. The climb to the 400ft black

mica Bolt Head cliffs is effort-less — the walker is too from 1700 to 1972 forty ves- Soar Mill Cove and the welecstatic about the coastal sels were wrecked between views, the scudding clouds and the breaking angered seas
below to realize the height the cliff, then takes a me-



come staging post at the hotel. Continue along lanes that pass weather-stained coastguard cottages and take right turns at junctions. There is soon a farm way on the left and this is the route. Look for a stile and footpath sign.

The track is well walked to Overbecks, a youth hostel and museum in which you can peep at the ardness life of countrymen and sailors in days long ago. We peep at the sheitered National Trast gardens where semi-tropical plants thrive to remind us of the sunnier days that the shear that the same and the same age. that lie shead.

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THE TIMES COOK

Our food at Christmas time long and complicated, but it is not, follows a very traditional pattern: and the tomato sauce can be made a roast, stuffed bird, a haunch of in advance. I recommend that the custard sauce is made when required. It is cooked again in the venison or a cranberry jelly, followed by Christmas pudding, mince pies and Christmas cake, a pie at a high enough temperature honey-roast ham and candied to kill any bacteria. sweetmeets - what about diabet-But before all these sumptuous ics? Or those on a gluten-free diet where wheat is forbidden? Christdishes, a light, crisp and colourful salad of fennel and pomegranate mas is a time to gather friends together, not to shun them from in appropriately seasonal colours.

your table because they might be difficult to cater for. So why not adapt some traditional ideas? (Serves 6) about 11/1b/570g fennel My recipe for winter pudding has no added sugar and can be eaten by diabetics. It is also high in juice of 1/2 lemon 1 large pomegranate 3 tosp olive oil fibre from the dried fruit and wholemeal bread. It is not suitable sea salt freshly ground black pepper for those on a gluten-free diet, but as this is a good time of year for tropical fruits, I would serve those.

joyed by all. When I cook vegetarian dishes, I like to serve lasagna,

risottos made from rice or barley,

multi-coloured vegetables with

cheese and some with vegetables

and served with three or four

sauces. This year my festive alternative to the Christmas roast

is a magnificent dish. Based on the

cooking of the Southern Medi-

terranean, the timpana of Malta, the pastitsio of Greece and the

pasticcio of Sicily and Naples, it is a deep pie made of sweet

shortcrust pastry filled with pasta,

cheese, herbs and vegetables in a

rich tomato sauce. It is an unusual

mixture of sweet and savoury,

and a majestic centrepiece for the

Christmas table. The recipe looks

Slice the fennel thinly after trimming off any damaged outer parts, If you are cooking for vegetarians, and turn the pieces in lemon juice it would be nice to come up with a to keep them white. Cut the pomegranate in half. Extract the main course that would be enseeds whole from one half, and put to one side. Squeeze the other half on a lemon squeezer, and mix the a large earthenware platter full of juice with the olive oil and seasoning. Stir into the fennel, add different stuffings, or a pyramid of pancakes, some stuffed with the pomegranate seeds and serve. Rich vegetable (Serves 6 to 6) for the pastry

Fennel and pomegranate salad

1/2/230g plain flour pinch of salt 2oz/60g caster sugar 1/2 Lib/110g unsalted butter, cubed

4 size 3 egg yolks

Mix the dry ingredients together, make a well in the centre and in it place the butter and egg yolks. Gradually mix these in with your fingertips and gather together into a ball trying not to handle it too much. Cover it. Chill for an hour.

Feasting for all

Why should vegetarians and dieters miss the Christmas fun? Frances Bissell offers some meals that everybody can share



pt/570ml tomato sauce

%pt/430ml custard sauce

2 tosp finely chopped fresh herbs as available

2oz/60g freshly grated Parmesan

salt and peppe

1½lb/680g dry weight pasta 1/4 lb/110g sticed fresh mushrooms %lb/110g shredded raddicchlo or Belgian endive

1/110g trimmed baby leeks, cut into 1in/2.5cm lengths 1oz/30g butter 1/4 lb/110g blue cheese or goats cheese

%lb/110g mozzarella

Cook the pasta in plenty of boiling water until just al dente. Drain it in a little olive oil to stop it %lb/110g Fontina, Edam, Gouda or Jarisberg sticking. Put to one side. Fry the vegetables in the butter for a few

minutes until just wilted, and put them to one side. Cut the cheese into small cubes. Use a large mixing bowl to assemble the mixing bowl to assemble the filling. If you have used long pasta, cut it into 2in/4.8cm lengths. Stir in the vegetables, cheese and tomato sauce. Add the salt, pepper, herbs and Parmesan. Roll out the pastry carefully, and line a deep buttered cake tin with a removable base, leaving enough pastry to make a lid. Spoon the filling into the pastry case, and

heap it up to form a mound in the centre. Spread the custard over the pasta. Roll out the remaining pasta. Roll out the remaining pastry and cover the pie, using the trimmings to decorate it. Brush with an egg and milk glaze, and bake in the centre of a pre-heated oven, gas mark 5, 190°C/375°F for 40 minutes, placing it first on a baking tray. When cooked, carefully ease it out of the tin, and transfer it to a warm serving plate. transfer it to a warm serving plate.

Custard sauce %pt/430ml mak

1 level tosp caster sugar 3 egg yolks

Heat the milk and sugar. Whisk the egg yolks in a bowl and gradually stir in the hot milk. Strain the custard back into the saucepan, and stir it over a low heat until it thickens enough to coat the back of a spoon. Pour it into a bowl, and when cooled slightly, cover the surface with clear food wrap to stop a skin forming Refrigerate until required.

Tomato sauce

1 thsp olive oil 1 medium onion, peeled and chopped

celery stalk, finely chopped 2 14oz/400g tins tomatoes 3 or 4 cloves garfic, peeled

%pt/140mi red wine ½ tsp dried thyme or oregano seasoning

Heat the olive oil in a sancepan, and in it, fry the onion and celery until translucent. Add the tomatoes and garlic, the red wine and the herbs. Cook on a moderate heat until the vegetables are soft, rub through a sieve and cook down further if necessary antil you have 1 pint/570 mls sauce. Season, cool and refrigerate.

Preparations for the winter pudding should be made the day before required.

Winter pudding (Serves 6)

1/4/b/340g mixed dried fruit cinnamon stick 3 cloves

6 grinds fresh nutmed 3in/7.5cm strip lemon peel 2pt/1.15i Earl Gray or other fragrant tea

6 to 6 slices wholemeal bread

For decoration thick Greek yoghurt

toasted hazeinuts or almonds

Cut the fruit into small pieces and remove any stones. Gently poach the fruit, spices and peet in the tea until the fruit is plumped out and tender (or soak the fruit in the tea overnight). Remove the crusts from the bread, cut each slice into two wedge-shaped pieces, dip them in the cooking juices, and line a pudding basin. Cut a circle of bread to fit each base. of bread to fit as a base. Spoon the fruit into the lined basin, cut another piece to fit as a cover and pour on more cooking juices to moisten the bread throroughly. Cover with foil and weight down with a heavy object. Cool, then refrigerate it overnight. When ready to serve, turn the pudding out on to a shallow dish. Pour on more juice if there are any dry patches, and then spread the pudding with yoghurt or pour cream over it before sprinkling

toasted nuts over the surface.

COLLECTING

Tall, striking and handsome

"This is a grandfather clock in play with, the cabinet-makers every sense," said the owner. "It belonged to my grandfather, and is really very like him — tall and handsome, but

steadfastly refuses to work." "It may only need a little adjustment to put it in beat." replied the valuer. "Even a thorough overhaul wouldn't cost much over £100, and it's worth the best part of £1,000. A moon-phase in the arch would add considerably to the value, but it's a good quality mahogany case, with an eight-day movement - not the 30-hour type that is wound, not with a key, but by pulling the chain or cord to raise the weights."

"I beard of a grandfather clock selling for £10,000

recently. early example can Urin much more than that if it's by an important London maker such as Tompion, Knibb or of the other great names of the 1670-1700 pcriod, when he 'longcase' clock was still

a noveity." "Did one of that lot invent

"The pendulum principle was applied to clocks by a Dutchman, Huygens, in 1657, and introduced to England the following year by John Fromanteel, whose family advertised wall clocks that would go a week or a month or a year with one winding up'. The snag was that the heavy weights needed to drive them made them prone to falling off the walls."

"That's what always happens when Hugo tries to hang

something up."
"In the 1660s, someone hit on the idea of a 'long case' that stood on the floor. The earliest type was very narrow, because the short, 'bob' pendulum with crown-wheel escapement didn't require much space for its swing. But about 1670, a 39in pendulum with an anchor escapement was introduced, and a wider case became

necessary: " Escapement? Makes me think of Colditz, not clocks. Frankly, the mechanical details are wasted on me. Tell me about the cases."

"With the greater width to

went to town if allowed to but from 1670-1700 the fashion was for walnut, laburnum or ebony veneers inlaid with floral or seaweed marquetry."
"I didn't know you could

"You can't. It's merely a term for delicate patterns of tendrils and arabesques. Jap-anning in imitation of oriental lacquer was also popular. A little glass window in the door enabled the proud owner to watch the pendulum swing to and fro. The hood was flat on top at first, with spiral columns flanking it. Later it was stepped, domed or arched, with classical col-

> What about the dial?" "The face was brass, silvered chapter-ring displaying Roman numerals, and cast brass spandrels with cherub heads at the corners. Marquetry and walnut were superseded by mahogany from about 1730, and in the 1770s, brass gave way to

enamelled and painted faces like yours."
"Why doesn't it have a name on the face, like some I've seen?"

"A name, often followed by that of a town, engraved on a brass face is usually the maker's, but in the early 19th century, when clock movements with painted faces were being mass-produced in Birmingham and London, it was often no more than the name of the retailer.

"Suppose I had a brassfaced clock with the maker's name on it, how would I know when he made it, and whether it was worth money?"

"You look him up in Watchmakers and Clockmakers of the World by G.H. Baillie. It lists 36,000 names, with dates and other information that helps establish the value.

"And if I wanted to buy an early clock, what would I have to watch out for?"

"Alterations and marriages. Many movements have been taken from plain cases and married to showy ones." "Sounds like living in sin."

Peter Philp

SALE LIST

RAILWAY COLLECTABLES: Among the 500 lots on offer ara pictures, posters, photos, maps and antiquated timetables from the days of steam locomotion. Also 19thcentury engineers' drawings. Onslow's Auctioneers, Baden Powell House, Queen's Gate, London SW7 (01-793 0240). Tomorrow, 1pm.

Drawings & WATERCOLOURS: Works by English and European artists. mostly 19th-century, carrying estumates from £200 to £2,000. Philips, Blenstock House, 7 Blenheim Street, London W1 (01-629 6602). Mon, 11am. FURNITURE: Mainly 18th and 19th-century pieces including some good provincial French Henry Spencer & Sons, 20 The Square, Retford, Nottinghamshire (0777

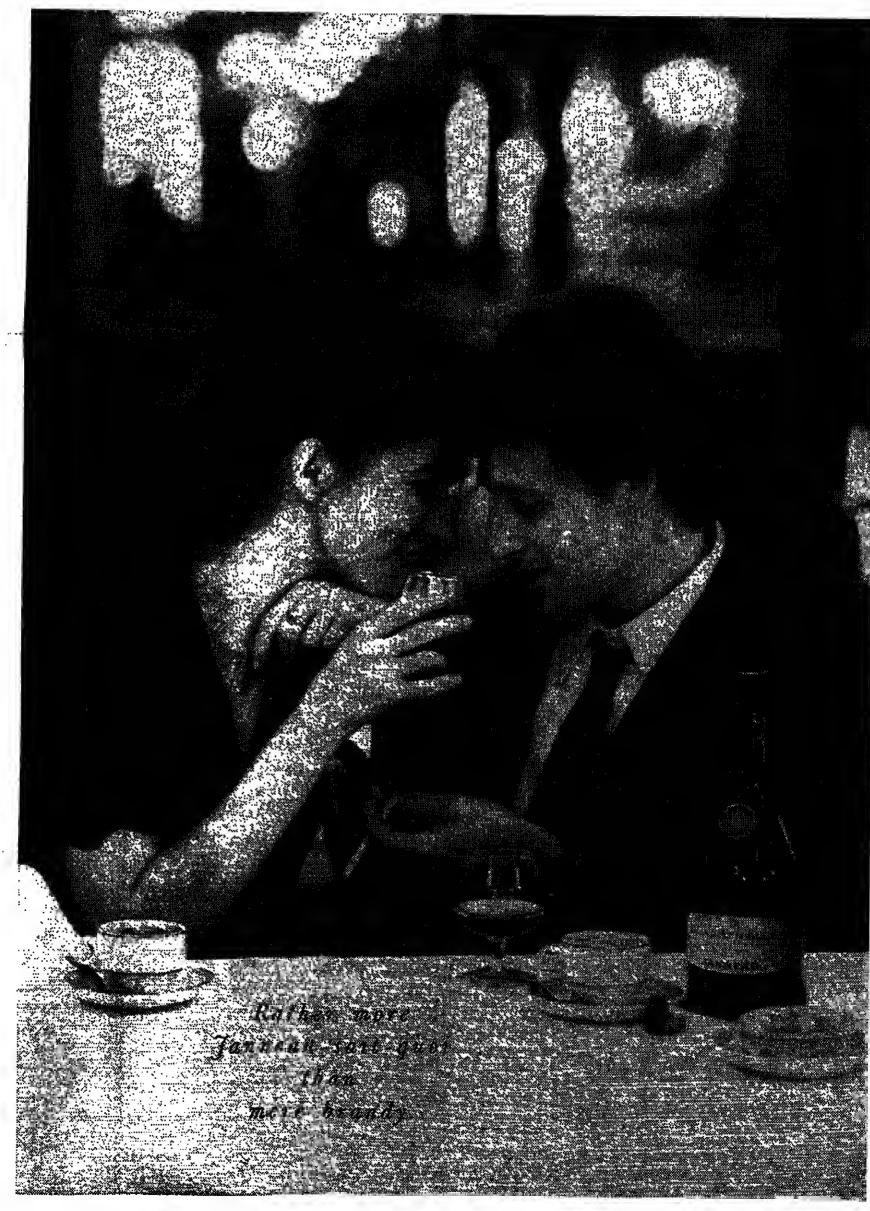
708633). Mon, 11am. TRAINS GALORE: A sale of fine small-gauge model and toy railway rolling stock and accessories. A Bing clockwork trainset, circa 1909, carries an estimate of £1,500-2,500; an Ever Ready battery-operated Underground trainset, vintage

1953, £50-80. Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 (01-581 7611). Mon, 2pm.

SEASONAL SKETCHES: The first 16 lots of Bonham's sale of watercolours and drawings are original artwork commissioned by magazines such as Sphere, Bystander, Tatler and Illustrated London

Bonhams, Montpeller Street, London SW7 (01-584 9161). Tues, 2pm. Jenny Gilbert

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Rich vein in the salt beef mines

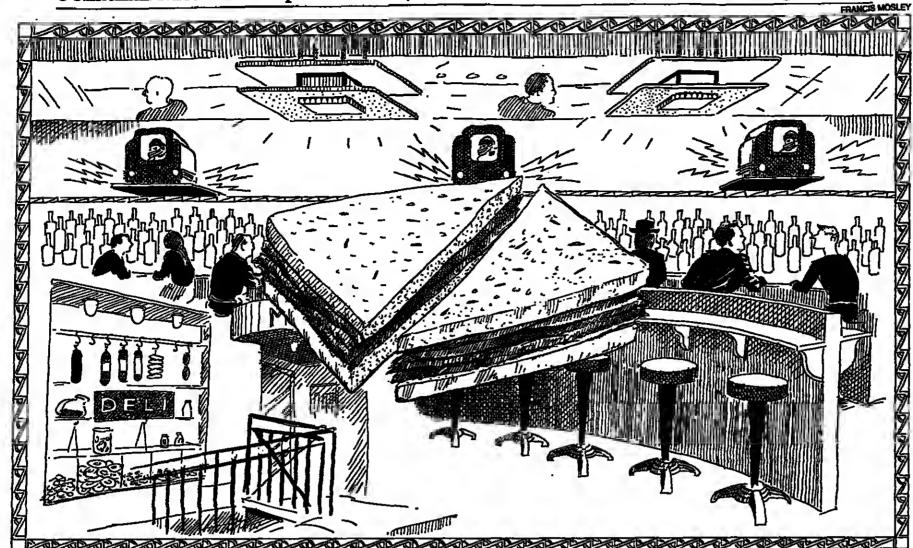
Mitchell and O' Brien is another Soho salt beef bar. But then, Maradonna is another footballer, De Niro another actor. M & O'B. being a repro New York deli, calls its salt beef corned beef, which may be a mistake: I can't believe that I'm alone in never having eaten this disgusting staple of school lunches since the Aberdeen typhoid outbreak of 1964.

Salt beef, however, is a different matter. The trouble with eating it in Soho is the sort of place in which it is habitually served: salt beef sandwiches, latkes and pick-led cucumbers are a classic combination. But the invariable fourth ingredient, bloody-mindedness, tends to dissipate the attractiveness. It doesn't seem to matter whether or not you are Jewish — you are treated with brusque contempt. M & O'B may import its beef, but it has unt brought over a team of waiters who take pride in their essays in punter-humiliation. What it has done is to take one of the latest, august sites in Soho (formerly occupied by a rather timid off-thepeg Franglais establishment), and turn it round.

St Anne's Court is an alley that runs between Dean and Water Streets, about 200 yards south of Oxford Street, and 300 yards north of Old Compton Street. The place has been designed by Fitch & Co. who were also responsible for the extravagant Braganza, the adnbe-like Jamdani and the best looking wine shop in London (in Upper Berkeley Street). The style here is more or less art deco in its American guise — it is tougher and bolder than is (or was) the norm in this country. And, unlike most recent nutings in this idiom, it is not laid on impasto; the decoratinn, the packaging, is not really what counts - the important thing is the way the space has been used, and this has more or less to do with architectural nous than with "style".

The bar through which one enters is large, austere and looks as though it has been around for ever, It has a workmanlike air and has more in common with the cavernous bars of Irish Kilburn than it does with "new wave" cocktail bars. The cocktails themselves are in earnest: no crudely punning names, no silly coloured mixtures conceived to appeal to the infantile eye, no umbrella. Instead, there are proper Manhattans, proper Bronx cocktails, proper Martinis - given the choice between the Martinis here

Jonathan Meades samples the fare, kosher and otherwise, at a mixed bag of delis



and those at Kensington Place I'd have both and then some more.

This bar, to judge from last week, is probably the best place in London to observe the Blacks (those young and youngish persons who wear no other colour and move about Soho in swart phalanxes); the Blacks talk as well as preen. I think this renders loud music redundant. I think, also, that it renders the trio of Bakelite television sets showing tennis videos redundant,

The restaurant, glassed off from the bar to its east, and approached through a satisfyingly heavy revolving door, is bereft of unasked-for aural aggravation. At one end there is a deli counter for take-aways. There are green vinyl banquettes, well spaced with

metal-framed chairs that are comfortable.

The menu is probably too extensive. It hedges its bets by including such items as Maryland Crabcakes and King Prawn sandwich, which clearly have no place in the deli tradition. This tradition, which derives from Ashkenazi cooking which, in turn, derives from eastern European cooking, is the mainstay of the establishment, and really needs nothing to back it up. The salt or "corned" beef is properly species 'corned" beef is properly succulent and the chicken soup with dill dumplings is surely better than that which anyone's mother ever made - quite how many times the broth had been through muslin to achieve its limpidity is anyone's

Continued on page 38

The herrings with sour cream are the works, and so is the chopped liver which does not hit the tongue with the habitual ferrous punch. Such classic salads as chicken, tuna and pickled salmon were all slightly sweet but these dishes, and things such as gefilte (chopped) fish and pastrami sandwich, are prepared with a care that is rare in this city. The concocnon called a Hot Rueben, which combines meat and cheese, is not only not kosher but not very nice. This cooking, because it is, as I say, fun-damentally eastern European, is not to be accompanied by wine. There is a good selection of American beers, and with, say, four Michelobs, two will pay

On a parochial note, I should point out that the titular O Brien is Rita, daughter-in-law of the man about whom Harold Macmillan once imperiously inquired: "Who is Conor O'Brien?" If this is what the daughters-in-law of polymaths can do when they turn their hands to restaurants, more of them should be pushed in that direction.

I'm afraid that I know nothing about the father-in-law of Jimmy of Jimmy's Salt Beef Bar, we can safely assume that he was not the UN representative in Katanga, that he was not editor-in-chief of The Observer (though you never know). For certain we can say that he should be proud of his daughter's husband for running a place that puts the old-school Soho

places to shame. Edgware has other attractions, too, mostly of the 1920s and 30s - the houses in Canons Park, a stunning Tudorbethan pub on Station Lane. stream-lined bungalows.

Jimmy's is all wood and Anaglypta and plastic — especially plastic. The cooking is faultless: salt beef in which the grain of the meat is apparent; thick latkes like ill-shaped quoits which are not greasy; lemony calf's foot jelly; white cabbage stuffed with rice and chopped meat and served with a fine tomato sauce; salted cucumber and pickled encumber. The service is as good as the food. With several lemon teas and mineral waters, the bill for two was £21.

Having eaten a good meal at the

Gatwick Hilton last week, I rather dumbly assumed that this chain of hotels must be doing something about its restaurants; improving them, for instance. Minsky's, at the roundabout between Lord's and Regents Park, would suggest that this is not the case. This Hilton restaurant serves kishka, which the Scottish waitress attempted to deter me from by describing it as "Jewish hageis" This was an insult, although well meant, to both kishka and haggis it was greasy and nasty and inedible. The gefilte fish was pretty unpleasant, 100, and so was a dish of oddly chalky mozzarella with sun-dried tomatoes. The salt beef was terrible - too thinly sliced, as if it were ham, of all things, and desiccated. The latkes were all right, and so was a first course of herrings with sour cream and apples. With three beers, two will pay £38.

At Uncle Ian's Deli Diner I found a partly dissolved stock cube in my "bean n barley" soun. Further, the salt beef was rubbery. But the other soup, lockshen, was good and so were the kreplach and kneidlach in it (respectively-stuffed wontnn-like thing and dumpling). On the walls are posted the dicts of Uncle Ian, which are not, perhaps, as funny as Uncle Ian reckons they are. But the place, which is bright with white tables and red chairs, is animated, and useful if you live within a couple of hundred yards. £10 with tea.

MITCHELL & O' BRIEN ****
2 St Anne's Court, London W1 (01-434 9941) £30. All major cards. Children. Wheelcheir access. 8.30am-11pm, Mon to Sat.

JIMMY'S SALT BEEF BAR *** 301 Hale Lane, Edgware, Middlesex (01-958 4955)

£21. Nn credit cards, 11am 9.30pm, every day except Fri.

Hilton international Regents Park, Lodge Road, London NW8 £38. All major cards, 12.30-2.30pm and 6.30-11pm, Mon to Fri and Sun. 6.30-11pm Sat. **UNCLE IAN'S DELI DINER**

1105 Finehley Road, London NW11 (01-458 3493/8178) £10. Most credit cards, Unlicensed. 9am-midnight every

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This is a changing selection of restaurants visited in recent months - managements and standards may have changed. Stars - up to a maximum of 10 - are for cooking rather than swags and chandeliers. Dishes described ere included to give an indication of the cooking but may well have changed. Prices quoted are for a three-course meal with drinks for two, and

are determined according to the "When in Rome" principles in the case of French places, aperitifs and a bottle of modes wine; tea in the case of oriental ones; beer or lassi in the case of Indian ones and so on, JM.

SOUTH LONDON

Harvey's 2 Believue Road, Wandsworth Common, London SW17 (01-767 5767) *****

Marco Pierre White is a major league chef not merely in British but in European terms. His cooking is generically alon to that of the modern French masters and derives targely from French regional dishes re-interpreted with a virtually unsurpassable flair and dedication. His lole gras dish of that liver sandwiched between potato particales is amazing, His rabbit saddle with languastine sauce is a similar marval. Sweets are sumptuous, cheeses a bit on one nota. The wine list goes on improving. This is among the finest place in Britain, 280.

32 Queenstown Roed, London SW8 (01-720 5986/7079)

The décor of this place is bang up to the minute even if it is poorly executed — trompe-l'oes, architectural tragments, that sort of thing fair the continue describe. thing. But the cooking, despits attempts to pass itself off as "regional", is our old friend, Soho Italian catering. Passable risotto, sen

Macnab's 43 Baiham High Road, London SW12 (01-675 5522)

The area is "up and coming" and so this smart, efficient place is full of loud shirts and loud voices. The wine bar at the front offers good Chinese bar snacks, the restaurant at the back is let down by glimmicks that do not come off; but some of the dishes are all right: pheasant breast with a sauce pepped up with choolate; rum and chocolate lart; lamb with a shallot sauce. £46.

The Grafton 45 Old Town, London SW4 (01-627 8231) ****

大大大大 Lovingly restored late 17th-century house converted into a rather preposterously formal French restaurant. However, it is not pompous and much of the cooking is to be reckoned with. The sweet souffles are probably the best in town. Thera is not much wrong with rabbit with herb sauce and raviolis of langoustine, nor with steak sandwiching fole gras. Vecetables sandwiching fole gras. Vegetables are less well prepared and the wine list to Francophile. 260.

Meson don Felipe 53 The Cut, London SE1 (01-928 3237) **

Pleasant tapas bar near Waterloo frequented by Marbella hands. Meat dishes are better than fish ones. Decent Floja and Manchego cheeses. \$25.

Festival Hall, Belvedere Road, South Bank, London SE1 (01-921 0870)

DIRECTORY

Fine view of the Thames and Somerset House, the old Shell could bring your own food. The cooking provided is second rate kn-flight stuff. £50-£60.

COUSCOUS

428 Finchley Road, London NW2 (01-794 3603) delicious. Cheap and potent Moroccan wine, £28.

Marrakesh W2 (01-723 9693)

Though the couscous is indifferent, this bizarrely decorated Moroccan restaurant serves some interesting fisher such as a billion to the contraction. dishes such as a chilli-dominate soup called harira, a lamb stew called taline, and a confection of and chill paste. £35.

La Reash Couscous House 23-24 Greek Street, London W1 (01-439 1063) Not really a couscous house at all but a Lebenese restaurant posing as an Algerian one. The meze is perfectly all right, the couscous is uninspired. £40.

Cholburi 25 Winchester Road, London NW3 (01-722 9086)

Rudimentary That cafe which serves some outstanding items: chicken curry with kaffir itme leaf; a cold beet dish flavoured with hot and sour sauce; wide noodles with soy; jelly of fruit and coconut milk. They also do take aways, £27.

The Blue Elephant 4 Fulham Broadway, London SW6 (01-385 6595) *****

Marvellous grilled scallops, fishcakes and satay, Good lamb with ginger and gartic, and beef with chilli and baby auberginas. The place is jungle-thick with plants and the service is by boys in martial uniform. Expensive wines. 250.









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DRINK

Robust, red and

PARTY BARGAINS

Sainsbury's Arruda, Sainsbury's, £2.15 Good red party bottles are easier to find than whites. If your contribution is this plummy Portuguese cinammon-spiced mouthful, all will be well. Great for mulied

1987 Cente Cigale Grenache Rose, Vin de Pays de l'Herault, Waitrose, £2.35 Not red, but a pretty, dry rose and, as auch, a deeply appealing party bottle. Light, fresh and fruity, with a crushed-strawberry scent and strawberry taste.

Tesco Claret, Tesco, £1.95 It has been some time since own-tabel claret was either good enough, or cheap enough, to be recommended as a party wine; this 75cl bottle, from Bordeaux negociant Yvon Mau, delivers an attractive, fresh, grassy Cabernet Franc mouthful for a rock-bottom price.

WITH VENISON AND PHEASANT

1986 Wynns Coonawarra Estate Shiraz, Threshers,

Fuller-flavoured gama, especially well-hung venison or pheasant, needs the gutsiest reda you can find. This fuscious, spicy, eucalyptus-like Shiraz is aa delicious as it ia

1983 Beaune, Safeway, £6.95 This wine, with its robust, plummy-spicy fruit and delicious tobacco-like palete, can only truly cope with the milder versions of venison and



1984 Hermitage, Gérard Chave, Oddbins, £14.99; Yapp Brothera, The Old Brewery, Mere, Wittshire, £14

Big, bold and extremely attractive with it, this classy, spicy-peppery red is a textbook example of the Syrah grape at its finest, and comes from the finest Hermitage

nice with spice Jane MacQuitty makes merry TURKEY

1982 Heitz Martha's Vineyard, Las Amis du Vin, 51 Chiltern Street, London W1; The Winery, 4 Chiton Road, London W9, \$26.16 Fine claret or burgundy is wiped out by the combined wiped out by the comolned assault of turkey's rich, fatty sauces, gravies and stuffings. Joe Heltz's rich, strong, minty-blackcurranty wine will cope

1962 Wynns Coonawarra Estate Cabernet Sauvignon, Majestic, £6.99 Although California Cabernet is the best bet, any New World Cabernet with bags of flavour and fruit should be able to cope. This eucalyptus-and-truffle-flavoured Cabernet will provide a memorable glass.

985 Santa Rîta Cabernet Servignon, Oddbine, £3.99
Not all Chilean Cabernet is as great as the plaudits infer, but this distinguished, cedary-scented wine certainty is.

with ideas for rich, ruby-coloured bottles to complement the meats

from Léoville Barton, with its

rich, warm, cedary, fruit, will shine if you bring it up to room

temperature long before serving, and decant the bottle

half an hour before pouring it

SPICED HAM

smoky wine, with its sweet, sappy fruit will go down wel with spicy fare, including a cold, Boxing Day collation.

1984 Domaine Surbezy Cartier, Corbières, Arthur Rackhams, £3.55

BEEF

1967 Margaux, Safeway, £6.50 "Produced and bottled at Château Palmer" is the key to this classic claret. Despite its youthful vintage, this grassy, cassis-scented wine has a glorious, velvety palate which is perfect with rosy-pink beet.

1978 Château Taibot, Saint-Julien, Majastic, £18.95 Mature, fourth growth claret, whose full red colour audit chip, cedary scent and taste will have discerning drinkers crying

1985 St Julien, Marks & Spencer, 27.50 As much of a bargain buy for Christmas claret drinkers as Safeway's Margaux, this '85

rich, ripe, peppery mouthful simply bursts with fruit and flavour and would set off any spiced meat with ease and

Macie, Barnes Wine Shop, £8.95

A good Italian red such as this firm, smoky, robust wine, aged make a perfect partner to

1980 Château Musar, Lebanon, Waitrose, £4.75; Barnes Wine Shop, £5.25. Spiced meats need punchy wines to complement and cope with them. This impressive, smoky wine, with the sweet more flavour. Goose, with a fruity stuffing, would be delicious with this spicy, cinnamon and violet scented

1986 Ser Gioveto, Rocca delle

GOOSE, DUCK

1985 Quinta do Cotto, Grande Escolha, Oddbina, £5.99; Bibendum, 113, Regents Park Road, London NW1, £7.98 Lots of families are bored with turkey and choose a bird with wine that has the acidity to cut through the goose's fat.

1983 Volnay, Labouré-Roi, Safeway, £3.95 Duck would accompany this

very fine wine from negociants Labouré-Roi well. Its alegant, delicate, spice will, however, be best appreciated if the duck's trimmings are equally delicate in flavour 1985 Sangioveto del Borgo, Vinattieri, Bibendum, £4.46

An immense, purple-black Sangloveto from Tuscany, with a rose scent and velvety palate which should cut through most stuffings and sauces with

PORTS

1978 Warre's Quinta de Cavadinha, Majestic, £13.95; •

Oddbins, £13.99; Waitrose I have been waiting all year to write about this: black as night and boasting an intoxicating perfume and sweet,

blackberry-like palate. Gorgeous. Finest Vintage Character, Churchill Graham, Barnes Wine Shop, 51 Barnes High Street, London SW13, £5.95 (70cl); Morris & Verdin, 28

Churton Street, London SW1, £7.40 (75ct)
For once, a reasonably priced port whose contents live up to the label. This ripe, full, peppery port would be good with Stilton, even better on its

1976 Graham's Malvedos Oddbins, £14.49 One of the finer Malvedos vintages. This seductive port has a wonderful scent and tastes of roses.

DIGESTIFS

Sainsbury's Calvados, Sainsbury's, £9.95 A fresh scent and light, fiery

Domaine de Pléchat, 10 Year Old, Oddbins, £12.99 Single estate armagnac, with a spicy, flowery bouquet and an alegant, nutty flavour. Good value for monay.

Springbank, 21 Year Old Malt Whisky, Oddbins, £29.50 This rare Campbeltown malt is due for a dramatic price rise soon; velvety, mild as milk, and tilessed with a luscious nutty

PETER TRIEVNOR

FOOD

Going crackers about bangers

At Christmas it is the little things that couot: not the longawaited and pre-arranged present, but the surprise stocking-filler, not the obligatory party but the unexpected telephone call or Christmas card: not the interminable turkey but the chipolatas. Christmas

is made by its trimmings.
Of these, sausages are among the best-loved. People are not completely rational about sausages. The world's oldest pre-packed and processed food is simply too good a joke. George Robey reckoned: "You've only got to say sausages" and people laugh. It's the funniest word in the English language."

Like most things, sausages are first heard of in China. The oldest koown sausages in the world are depicted in wall paintings of the Later Han. Homer gave them the nod with the first written reference, in The Odyssey, in the celebrity, and his eccentric 9th century BC. But there is little doubt that sausages really originated in prehistoric likes of Elizabeth Taylor (a times, when hunters realized that animals' stomachs made a durable receptacle into which they could pack the savoury remains of their prey.

Every nation, every region, and almost every family pays homage to some special kind of sausage that it regards as the sausage of its dreams. So it is with the British banger - a sausage no other European would deem worthy of the name. It is as British as bitter, afternoon tea and breakfast. It

1 Elman

As British as bitter, the sausage reigns supreme as a national favourite; but which of the many

varieties is the 'real' thing - and what is it made of?

goes, after all, with all three. When Britain's greatest man of letters, Graham Greene, returns (all too rarely) to our shores, what does he crave? A pint of beer and a sausage, Even the Archbishop of Canterbury has confessed his devotion to the burnt, knobbly bits at the end. And of course there are sausage makers by appointment to the Queen, although they do oot include Norman Parkinson, aspirations on a nation-wide the photographer, yet.

sausages as a sideline, to satisfy his own appetite, on the island of Tobago more than a quarter of a century ago. His way of occasionally smuggling them around the world for the er, and oow Parkinson, the brand name, and the sausages have been adopted by as highpowered an entrepreneurial

Broad Street PR group and the

major supermarkets in central London. The Porkinson has

Parkinson started making The Archbishop

pound in each shoe in his luggage), gained his sausages a certain renom. He called them The Famous Porkinson Bangband of yuppies and Big Bangers as ooe could hope to

Two top men from Saatchi and Saatchi, the founder of the stockbroker who was co-

founder of WPP, have con-spired to give the Porkinson sausages a higher profile. In-stead of flying concealed in the luggage hold, they are now eaten on Concorde. They are also stocked in Fortnum & Mason, named on the menu in smart Loodon restaurants and clubs, and at the end of January will be launched in

Parkinson's original recipe has, I know, been "adapted slightly". That, I am told, was to adjust the "balance" which

of Canterbury has confessed his devotion to the burnt, knobbly bits at the end'

eccommodates an unusually high proportion of meat (80 per cent), and not to introduce the phosphate emulsifier E450(a) (a way of adding succulence in the shape of water), preservative E221 (sodium sulphite), and flavour enhancer 621 (monosodium glutamate) which I spy in the ingredients list, along with natural flavourings (honey, lemon)"

The Porkinson, a mildflavoured and medium-fine textured sausage, will not be everyone's ideal. Some people are allergic to monosodium glutamate, so they will be put off straight away. But then how could any one sausage gain universal acceptance as the Great British Sausage, symbol

There are, at a rough count,

18,000 sausage-making butchers at work in Britain today. The number is sadly diminishing, but it is still a safe bet that there are at least as many different recipes being fol-lowed. Some butchers make as many as 15 different types. We

eat six billion sausages a year. A survey reported that oearly two thirds of the population have an evening meal with sausages once a week or more. There are still regional differences in our preferences. Scotland has a strong bias towards beef: 83 per cent of sales north of the border are beef, while in the West Mid-

lands the proportion is virtually reversed in favour of pork. The Midlands is also the stronghold for tomato-flavoured sausages, but everywhere there is a tendency to try novelties such as fillings made with pork and apple, chilli, or lamb and mint. They are likely to prove more transient than some of

the regional specialities which are still to be found (in name at least): the nbiquitous Cumberland, whose distinctive characteristic is not its flavouring, but the mere fact that it is not twisted into links but sold and cooked in one long length; the Cambridge sausage, allegedly distinctive in using scalded rice as its bulking agent; Wiltshire, particularly porky, or Gloucester, flavoured with sage and tra-ditionally (but seldom these days) made from Gloucester Old Spot pigs.

Leaders in The Times in the 1930s used, regularly and reverentially, to refer to sau-sages as "savoury bags of mystery". The leader-writer plainly had a soft spot for them. But everyone knows by now that a pork sausage need only be 65 per cent meat, and that half that can be fat. Beef, beef and pork, or other meat sausages need only be half

I surprise anyone by telling them that the meat may be mechanically recovered meat (MRM), stripped from the bone in what some consider an excessively "waste-not, want-not" attitude to protein. It is not true, though, that

meat, and again that means possibly a quarter fat. Nor will

every part of the pig but the squeak is used in making sausages. In fact the back goes as bacon, the legs are prepared as joints, meat from the head is used in pork loaf, blood goes into black pudding, liver to pâté, booes for pork jelly, surplus fat is used for lard for pie-crusts or soap-making, and bristles go into brushes. It is the tasty, inaccessible and sometimes unmentionable bits that are left after that which go into most commercial sausages. Best, the Thirties leader writer used to say,

Yet I am assured that it is not true, as has been claimed in our virulently abusive food Press, that sausages may contain ground-up bone, eyehalls. testicles or udders. Such items," says the British Sausage Bureao rucfully, "are oot legally allowed to be used." I'm not sure I understand why, but I suspect it has something to do with national prurience and timidity. No wonder our sausages are still rather too inclined to honour Pigling Bland.

not to inquire too closely.



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Temptation No 6 A worrying urge to yield to the blandishments of glussy, tinsel-bedecked advertisements for other people's Port.

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Festive fun time For a touch of glass

SANTA SPECIALS: Rides on steam-hauled trains with Father Christmas, gifts for children and - usually -seasonal refreshments for adults. Check times, ticket prices, with individual stations. Booking advised. Mid-Hants Railway, Alesford, Hampshire (0962 734200); Didcot Railway centre, Didcot Oxfordshire (0235 817200); Haven Street Railway, Ryde Isle of Wight (0983 882204); Keighley and Valley Railway, Hayworth Station, Mill Hey, West Yorkshire (0535 45214); North York Moors railway, Pickering-Grosmont Station

are hosts of salesmen waiting

cable) which avoids the need

plants should have extra-large

To refine my shortlist of

plants which can be expected

to take to conservatory life,

assuming a minimum winter temperature of about

45°F/7°C, 1 asked Dr Peter Tomson and Jane Gentry of

Abbots House Garden, Ab-

bot's Langley, in Hertford-

shire, who have turned their

hobby into a small nursery, for

some advice; and I spoke to Otto Menzel, the proprietor of Long Man Gardens, in

Tnmsoo's south-west facing

conservatory - without the blinds usually deemed a

necessity - never reaches the

tormenting temperatures nf-

ten reported in sunny weather,

His highest record is

90°F/32°C, which is moderate

thinks this is because he has

plants such as the ferny leaved Acacia dealbata, two vines and a morning glory intercept-

ing the light from within, and

clematis, passion flower, fre-mootia and hnneysuckle

The acacia is "trouble-free - never gets a thing", but as it is a fairly vigorous tree, it

needs strict pruning to keep it

from pushing on the glass.

"Don't bring passion flowers inside though," he warns.

"They catch everything that's

growing outside.

Gentry

Polegate, East Sussex.

uncer giass.

North Yorkshire (0751 73799); Nene Valley Railway, Wandsford Station, Stibbington, Peterborough (0780 782854); Tenterden Town Station, Tenterden, Kent NURSES CAROL CONCERT: In aid of Sir Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children, a popular annual event with the

massed choirs of Highland Nurses, soloists Patricia Hay and Claire Shearer, conductor Andrew Adamson. Eden Court Theatre, Inverness (0463 221718). Tomorrow, 3pm. Adult £3.50, child £1.50.

LINCOLN CHRISTMAS MARKET: In the shadow of the cathedral many store holders in period dress selling food, crafts and gifts. Street entertainers, choirs, bands and asonal refreshm Bailgate and Castle Squure, Lincoln, Today, tomorrow, noon-5.30pm. Free. KRAFT FOODS

INTERNATIONAL **GYMNASTICS TOURNAMENT:** empions from the USSR, Peoples Republic of China, United States, Canada, Romania, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Italy and Great Britain, are taking part.
Alexandra Palace, Wood Green, London N22 (Box office 01-379 4444). Today, 1pm; tomorrow, 2pm. Tickets £5, £6.

GRASSINGTON DICKENSIAN CHRISTMAS: Villagers in Victorian dress, street entertainers, dancing, Tha Square, Grassington, North Yorkshire, Today, 11am-

CHRISTMAS AT ALTON TOWERS: Festive lights, music, parades and a special Christmas show. Selected rides open. Alton Towers, Alton, Staffordshire (0538 702200). Today until Dec 24, 2-7pm. Adult £1, child 50p.

WAPPING GARDENS CHRISTMAS FAIR: TO celebrate the re-opening of Fireworks display at 4.30pm. Wapping Gardens, Tench Street, Greenbank, London E1 Tomorrow 1-5pm. Free.

Judy Froshaug

Continued from page 36

The sales of conservatories are increasing rapidly, according Choosing the best plants for your greenhouse



Growing under glass: Lapageria roses (foreground), morning glory, hoya and Tencrium fraticans

to find, and when it is, tends to

be expensive (£40-£75 for a plant 4-6ft high is not excessive) and nf a single variety

(The Plant Finder, the Hardy Plant Society's directory by

Chris Philip lists eight possible stockists and some

garden centres occasinnally

Best planted in beds or

borders, Lapageria will grow

to 10ft/3m in conditions it

likes (less if in 8-10inch pots).

A recommended soil medium, ideally moist but well-drained,

is three parts (by volume) acid

to neutral loam, two parts peat or very well-rotted leaf mould

Lapageria needs shading

from the hottest sun, a tem-

Two further chess classics,

which I would have no hesita-

tion in recommending as

Christmas gifts for the chess

student, are My System and

tion at £14.95.

geniuses of that era.

and nne part coarse sand.

stock them.)

which will grow to a bushy was strongly in favour ("al-5ft/t.5m; and the shrubby, most completely free from grey-leaved Teucrium fraticans which has blue-purple flowers and is fairly bugfree". Another on the approved list is a buddleia (Buddleia madagascariensis) with honey-scented flowers and narrow, glossy leaves, white-felted on the underside. Hoya carnosa, the wax plant, is "very good if you take it out of the hoops nn which nursby glasshouse standards; he eries train and let it stretch nut". Hoyas are susceptible to mealy bug "but not much else - you have to watch out and

nab it in time". Lapageria is one of the most beautiful plants to adapt for the conservatory but apininns on it conflict. Abbot's House for you as the plant is difficult

WEEKEND TIPS • Prene gooseberries as nec-

essary - keeping the branches Plant fruit trees and bushes dease deters birds if you do not when weather is mild and soil use a fruit cage. • Do not overwater house or • Continue tidying the garden

Australian mint bush, with its in particular. lavender-blue flowers, the end of the mont

pests"). Menzel did not want to be disheartening but thought it too difficult, too susceptible to greenfly and changes in temperature.

An evergreen climber, it can be trained on wires or trellis np a back wall and led along under the roof so that the elegant, double-skirted long bells may hang freely against the glossy foliage. The flowers (the national flower of Chile) are rose pink in the species, deep pink in the variety Nashcourt, or white in Lapageria rosea albiflora.

It is difficult to decide which is the most attractive, but the choice may be made

 Make sure climbing plants are properly secure against winter winds.

when weather is mild and soil

recommends greenhouse plants - cyclamen as the leaves of herbaceous mint bush, with its in particular. small, menthol-scented leaves • Frune outdoor grapes before tings taken now should be 50°F/10°C and should be mist-sprayed and watered freely during the growing scason, which lasts approxi-mately from April to October, and sparingly during the win-ter. If you come across one, you will probably be unable to resist it, but it calls for

There is disagreement again on bougainvillea: Menzel, who grows 18 kinds, found it "fairly clean except for some mealy bug". Accurate watering is the key to success: when nver-watered the plant looks parched and extra water then hastens its demise. Tomsoo disqualified it from the beginners' list, along with oleander, for being whitefly-prone. Da-turas, with their bewitching trumpets are also out of favour with him for being "almost impossible to rid of red spider mite'

Oleanders and daturas are highly poisonous and not for conservatories where children or animals might touch and chew leaves. Citrus trees are also "too difficult", prone to scale insect and mealy bug, and ca-prictous: "If you overwater, the leaves fall off; if you underwater - the leaves fall Tomson and Gentry, are

pragmatic about pest control.
"Bugs in conservatories multiply very fast - there's a balance in the wild, but in artificial conditions you need artificial control," says Tomson. Their preferred method is the smoke cone, containing permethrin. Menzel agrees smoke is the most effective method of cleaning up, but he rarely uses chemicals in his nursery, finding biological methods of control maintain an adequate balance. Abbots House Garden, 10 High Street, Abbot's Langley, Hertfordshire (09277 64946) is open for plant sales on Sat-urdays. Long Man Gardens, Lewes Road, Wilmington Pole-gate, East Sussex BN26 SRS (0323 870 816 for daily opening times/mail order). Newington Nurseries, Old School, New-ington Organic OVO 844 (1982).

ington, Oxford OX9 8AH (0883 842 426 mail order only). perature not lower than Francesca Greenoak

naturally hoping to build on switching to the VJ. Brock their achievement in Jamaica by going one better in the recent World Olympiad in round of the suit in this five Venice. After a roller-coaster card ending: display in the round robin where, uncharacteristically, they failed to beat any of the strongest teams, they eventually finished third in their section, which was enough to qualify for the quarter finals. Fortunately Armstrong and Kirby were in sparkling form. which compensated for the

remainder of the team. Matches between Britaio and Ireland often inspire special rivalry. Oo this occasino extra spice was added because after 21 rounds Ireland were lying third, 7VPs ahead of us. Phillip Alder, writing in the Daily Bulletin, described Armstrong and Kirby's play as the best performance seen by the bridgerama audience so far". This hand was perhaps the jewel io the crown.

uneven display of some of the

Britain v Ireland, North-South Game. Dealer West.

0 10543 4 084 ♦ 7542 ♥ 10543 ♦ 8 ♦ J 1073

First, the events in closed room:

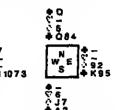
Opening lead \$8

(1) 15-18 points (2) Transfer to spades

By fallowing this sequence Forrester has shown a raise to 2NT which included a five-card spade suit. Against this unpromising contract, Senior reasonably elected to lead his partner's suit. This gave Brock a small chance, which he astutely seized. He covered the \$8 with

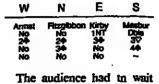
dummy's \$10, winning East's OQ with his OK. He played in dummy's •K, which Boland ducked. But when Brock played a diamond Boland won with the QA, and

The British Open team were then cashed took his top hearts and put West on play with the fourth



Senior (West) played the J. Brock won in hand and cashed the V6. East was caught. If he threw a diamond, Brock's diamonds would be good. When he decided to part with a club Brock played the Ace and another club, forcing East to give him the last two tricks with the aid of the marked diamnod finesse. played.

In the npen room the Irish



for Kirby's opening lead. For British supporters the wait was worthwhile when Kirby produced the Ace of Diamonds. Naturally when he saw West's \$8 he continued with the suit, selecting the OQ. This was a most unusual signal, requesting a trump return. He could not be asking for a heart, as he had opened nne nn trump. Armstrong read the signal and nbligingly returned a trump. Now a second diamond ruff defeated the contract.

As the cards lie, declarer would always be defeated after Kirby's brilliant lead. But if declarer had had a 6-1distribution with the #QJ, the trump return would have been essential. This fine display by both British pairs contributed to a winning margin of 21 VPs to 9.

Sadly, in a match which I shall describe in a future article, Britain lost in the quarter finals by 10 IMPs, to

Jeremy Flint

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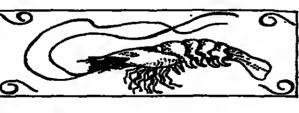
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Wild ways

of Rh3.

ACROSS

18 Church panel painting (4) 19 Trip (6)

21 Farm and out-buildings (6)

24 Dozy (6)

17 Should (5) 20 Sick (3)

2 Contractor's incentive (7,6)
3 Rank below consultant (9)

DOWN

Od7 29 Re6 c4

Rubinstein, in a desperate

predicament, does his best to

confuse matters. With both

CHESS

Chess Praxis, both from the pen of that great writer and player, Aron Nimzowitsch. Written in the 1920s, these books have now been reissued Another way of conducting Rxf6 a2 30 Rxf8 a1=Q+ 31 the attack and nne, perhaps Rf1 and White wins, since more consistent with White's Black cannot ward nff the by Batsford, the former in paperback at £8.95, the latter in a hardback collectors' edideclared strategy of attacking sacrifice oo h6.

the Black King along the al-h8
diagonal, is 16 g4 planning h4
and g5. The point of this would be to assault the Black

the Black King along the al-h8
diagonal, is 16 g4 planning h4
and g5. The point of this would be to assault the Black

cannot be captured on account Nimzowitsch came close to gaining the world title and, indeed, his visiting cards are reputed to have borne the

Strongpoint on fö.
16 ... a6 17 f5 dxe4
16 Cxe4 e5 15 Re3 b5
20 Rg3 Kh8 21 Nf3 bxe47 legend: "Crown Prince of the Chess World". Unfortunately for him, however, he always Absorbed in his Queen's side

remained in the shadow first of Capablanca, and then of counter-attack, the profound Alekhine, the two undisputed strategist. Rubinstein, overlooks a brutal tactical coup. At Nimzowitsch's play, at its best, was wild and unfathomthis point it was necessary to insert the defensive precauable. His defeated adversaries tion 21 ... Bd6. described his strategies as witchcraft. The following

game, against a formidable rival, is typical of his rich seam of imagination. It is given in Chess Praxis as game White: Aroo Nimzowitsch; Black: Akiba Rubinstein. Semmering 1926, Nimzo-witsch Attack. 2 ыз

Not the most accurate mave order since, as Bobby Fischer was to demonstrate almost half a century later, Black could now play 3 ...f6, blunting the force of White's Queen's Bishop nn the long diagonal, Rubinstein, however, neglects this precaution.

3 ... Nc6 4 e3 Nt6 5 Bb5 8d7 0 0-0 e6 7 d3 Be7 0 Nb1d2 0-0 9 Ruc6 8uc6 10 Ne5 Be8 11 44 Nd7 12 Nu07 Cud7 13 e4 16 14 Qt3 Bt7 15 e4 b6 18 Ree1

WINNING MOVE In the diagram, White, to move, has a quick win. What is White's winning move?



Black cannot accept the piece offered with 22 ...fxe5 nn account of 23 Qxe5 Bf6 24Qxf6 gxf6 25Bxf6 checkmate. 22 ... Qe6 23 Qg4 Rg8

wooderful enoception.

Here, in serious time trouble, Nimzowitsch misses the brilliant denouement 24 Ng6+ Bxg6 25 fxg6 h6 26 Rh3 Qf8 27 Qg5 a3 28 Bxf6 Bxf6 29

To enter The Times Winning Move compatition, send your answer on a posteard with your name and address to: The Times Winning Allows Competion, The Times, 1, Virginia Street, London El sout. The first time correct answers drawn on Thurstay next week will win a wallet-stoad personal chees computer. The winners names together with the shanday move will be primed next Saturday.

Last Saturday's compet

The three wisners of The Times personal chase computers are: B.M. Woodward, Grove Road, Ventror, Isle of Wight; C.W. Surn, Sevencies, Kent; P.L. Vasil, Neath, West Glemorgan.

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inch disks supplied with comprehensive instructions. Price £24-95 (inc. p & p)

Sand for further details. Queensdown Graphics 14 Capabesian Food, Lavidon N. + 709 April 14, 1985

Ri7 37 Qg 5+ Rg 7 38 Qh 5. 30 bxc4 Rab8 31 Bc3 Rt 32 Re1 Bb6+

In the heat of battle it is now Superinr counterchances are afforded by 32. Rxel+ 33 Bxe! Qa4, when Black can hope fir a draw. 33 kf1 Rxe1+ 34 Bxe1 Qa4 35 Rh3 Rr8

Now we see why Black's Bishop check nn move 32 was a mistake. If now 35 ... Re8 36 Rxh6+ gxh6 37Qxh6+ Kg8 38Qg6+ Kh8 39 Qxf6+ and White wins. Of course, White's Queen cannot be captured on account

or a chapter of

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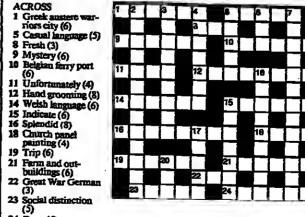
2015 **(1) (1) (1) (1)**

36 Bc3 Bd8 37 Bd2 Qxc2 38 Bxh6 Qb1+ 39 Ke2 Qc2+ 40 Ke3 Bb6+ 41 Ke4 Qe2+ 42 Re3!

Rubinstein must either players very short of time Nimzowitsch oow recoils from playing the complicated 30 Rxf6 which would, however, have led to a win after 30... Bxf6 31 Bxf6 gxf6 32 Qxh6+ Qh7 33Qxf6+ Rg7 34 Rg6 cxb3 35cxh3 Kg8 36Rh6 surrender his Queen or be mated on g7. Despite its many vicissitudes, this is a stirring game, a worthy clash between Nimznwitsch's mysterious powers of imagination and Ruhinstein's fierce tenacity. Raymond Keene

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1748

Prizes of the Collins Concise Dictionary will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, December 22. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, December 24.



SOLUTION TO NO 1747 ACROSS: 1 Beware 4 Scorch 9 Bar-gain 10 Parer 11 Azan 12 Carillon 14 Actual 15 Tumuli 18 Transact 20 Pure 22 Offer 23 Axillae 25 Dilate 26 Slayed

DOWN: 1 Bib 2 Warrant 3 Read 5 Cap-sicum 6 Rural 7 Hirundine 8 Sneak 11 Acauthoid 13 Sanskril 16 Usualiy 17 Scrag 19 Awful 2t Will 24 End 4 Pale, sickly (7) 5 Vowed (5) 6 Deed (3) 7 Age gulf (10,3) 13 Test taker (9) 15 Evil intentions (7) The winners of prize concise No 1742 are Eva M. Strange, Stanbarrow Farmhouse, West Street, Bere Regis, Wareham, Dorset; and J.R. Osborne, St Martins Close, Erith, Kent.

SOLUTION TO NO 1742 (last Saturday's prize concise) ACROSS: 1 Fascia 5 Civic 8 Bar 9 Versed 10 Exedra 11 Like 12 Motorist 14 Renown 15 Recoil 16 Breeches 18 Punt 19 Patent 21 Raisin 22 Cut 23 Torch 24 Senora DOWN: 2 Amelia Earhart 2 Casserole 4 Abdomen 5 Crest 6 Vie 7 Christian Dior 13 Reception 15 Resorts 17 Hurch 20 Err

TRAVEL

Style, not speed: donkey transport is still common poor condition, but there is a

TRAVEL NEWS

With more than two million

passengers expected to pass through Heathrow in the

December run-up to Christ-

to people not to gift-wrap

presents before flying. Sec-

and customs inspections on

arrival make it wiser to pack

wrapping paper and ribbons

separately. Although the

warning was issued by Heath-

row, it is equally relevant to

passengers flying from other

Tried and trusted

What have a coastguard cot-

tage, a foresters' lodge and a castle watchtower got io com-

mon with a former envine

bouse, a castellated cliff-top

folly and a half-timbered

medieval flat overlooking

York Minster? All appear in

the National Trust's first

nationwide brochure Holiday

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uousness and season, and all

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Oman. Now Twickers World

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airports.

urity searches oo departure

Division of the spoils

Cyprus is both Greek and Turkish, beautiful and tacky

Bryan Appleyard hired himself some hippy-wheels and

explored this unpredictable island

here are two five- superb domed Byzantine One, Ayia Parashevi, was built in the 11th century at Yeroskipos, a few miles east of Paphos. It sits, tiny, hunched and secretive, in the centre of the town. Nearby is a cafe, full of the eternal, black-clad Cypriot men plus a priest, and hobbling across the church-yard is one eternal, black-clad Cypriot woman. She puts down her shopping and starts gesturing furiously at the shoe repairer's shop, a gloomy hole in a ocarby wall.
It looks at first like a

symptom of some local fend. But then it becomes clear that she means that the combier's is where I shall find the key to the church door, which I have been futilely rattling for the past five minutes. But no cobbler - the hole in the wall is empty. Something, however, has moved in the cafe and a small, elderly man with an expression of timeless misery has reluctantly abandoned his metrio to deal with this

He opens a biscuit tin and scrabbles around inside to emerge triumphantly with . . . a biscuit. This he gives to me, explaining that he is called George and this is his saint's day, so I should have a biscuit to celebrate. To be frank, it is not St George's Day, but George knows how to act cute and the tin does also contain

The biscuit is Huntley &. Palmer's, but the church is the real Cypriot thing: cramped Byzantine terror and piety, only slightly spoiled by a bad 19th-century nave. George whips out a typewritten guide to the murals. They are in

t wrap up

Arabian Oryx", in its new Wildlife, Cultural and Wilder-

ness Journeys programme. It

is one of a choice of three

holidays to the Sultanate of

Oman on the southern sea-

board of Arabia, and costs

Cruising the 160 navigable

miles of the St John's River in

Florida in a consortable float-

ing villa is the latest way to see

the sunshine state. Blakes

Holidays (0603 784131) offer

two week packages from £554.

The price includes flights to Orlando by Icelandair via

Reykjavik, with six nights cruising and vouchers for

seven hotel nights and

ulimited mileage car hire for

Messing about in boats is

nicest of all somewhere sunny

and warm - which explains

the growing popularity and

variety of watersports holi-

days now available in the

Mediterranean. Falcon

Sailing's (01-727 0232) new

programme has one of the

prettiest brochures to cross my

desk. Dinghy sailing and windsurfing in Sardinia are

late additions to the pro-

gramme of bolidays in Greece

and Turkey which include flotilla and independent

Samba spectacle

Once a year is enough, once a

lifetime is a must is one view

of Brazil's annual excuse for

over-dressing, under-dressing,

and over-indulging in just

about everything Rio de Janeiro's speciacular carnival.

Journey Latin America (01-

747 8315) still has flight and

accommodation packages for

a week of samba sounds for

£999 per person. Carnival runs from February I-9.

Shona Crawford Poole

Travel editor

Floating dreams

the whole holiday.

£1.750.

dormition. The star icoo is a churches in Cyprus. 15th-century Virgin with a crucifixion on the reverse. As I leave. George is giving a biscuit to a coople of Germans. He takes my pound with bad grace.

This is the Cyprus of the guide books: the sleepy town, the fine art, borrifically badly preserved, and the still, isolated feel of the place. For years it has co-existed with another Cyprus - that of the British soldiers stationed at Akrotiri, and of the budget package tour. But this polarity

is changing.

The change effectively began in 1974, when the Turks occupied the north of the island in the name of protecting the Turkish minority in Cyprus from the Greeks. The invasioo displaced 210,000 people, and sent Greeks flooding southward from the hig coastal towns of Famagusta and Kyrenia. The Green Line now divides the island in two and, 14 years on, the Greek south seems to be in the process of accepting that it is practically permanent.

Now they are working hard on their tourist industry and Paphos, in the far sooth-west, is the centre of activity. The town splits in two - Ktima at the top of the hill, and Kato Paphos around the harbour. Ktima is known as the oew town though, in fact, all the new development has happened in Kato Paphos. It is busy, messy and largely without interest, but for a couple of decent museums and a few rather haunting cafes still patronized by ageing British military types.

It is in the old town that tourism is rapidly being constructed. They had plenty to work with - history is littered about the place like slabs of feta cheese oo a "traditional Cyprus salad". There are remains of a Frankish castle, the mis-named Tombs of the Kings, dating from the third century BC, a Roman theatre, the Fort of Paphos and, best of all, some breath-taking mosaics, virtually all that remain of the houses of Diooysos, Aion. Orpheus and the Villa of have been housed in a quite brilliant set of protective buildings linked by pathways. Walking through this small complex is everything visiting such a site should be cootemplative and restful.

t is a good deal more than can be said for the coastal strip of Kato Paphos, which winds for a couple of miles from the old harbour to the Sodap Winery which, inelegantly, dominates one end of the bay. New development here is feverish. Dozens of hoardings advertise boliday homes, and town, it is cheap and always there must be more than a packed. On your second night hundred new restaurants, not you are greeted as old friends. to mentioo souvenir shops, all buddled together in American-style "mini-malls". On usually drinkahle, but no the whole, though, the effect is more. Arsinoe is a decent, oot as objectionable as it reliable white, and Semeli a might sound. The huilding genuinely good red. In any scale is cheerful and small, and the lines of the streets meander in a reasonable attempt at picturesque. The of the evening. Carnival: dancing in the street

All of which makes for an amiable, tipsy wallow of a holiday with any guilt allayed by some undemanding arch-These betray the aspirations of aeological pottering. The point, however, is to get mobile. Organized excursions are not recommended. Car hire is mercifully cheap. Wimps can stick with a characteristic British saloon, you can be a bit smart with a Suzuki jeep, but the real Cyprus transport is the Mini-Moke.

> left-overs from the Sixties are found on the island. They are, for the hired this hippyish folly in late October. The pitiless heat of the summer has long gone.
> During the day on the coast temperatures are a pleasant 75°F, but it rains occasionally and the mountains and the nights are distinctly cool.

Once mobile, the places to go are fairly obvious. Yeroskipos is easy. Further down the same road, ruins litter the landscape at Palaia Papbos and, beyond that, there is Petra tou Romiou, traditionally the birthplace of Aphrodite. It is a lovely sweep of cliffs and bay, but you would only hang around if you actually believed that stuff about the sea thereabouts making you look younger. Better to drive inland to the mountains around Troodos. which are as magnificent as

the cases calming. The usual destination in these mountains is the Kykko Monastery, the richest in Cyprus, and the home of an icon of the Virgin said to have been painted by St Luke. mountains in a Moke, the Unfortunately, this is con-

the roads are terrifying. But

the villages are all amiable and

undreds of these cealed from view and Kykko does not actually have that much else to offer apart from a stunning location. The wealth is evident in the over-restored driver at least, hliss. Think and largely soul-less huildings, twice, bowever, if yoo are and the demands of tourism there in the autumn — we have produced a dozen souhave produced a dozen souvenir shops and a big cafe.

From Kykko everybody goes on a couple of miles to the tomb of Archbishop two pimpled conscripts, in a stone, domed chapel,

Ayios Neophytos, a monastery a few miles from Paphos, is a better trip. Again it has a somewhat over-restored look. But it does at least have the caves dug into the rock by its founding hermit and covered with his paintings, still relatively intact.

Development has reached the fishing village of Lachi, hut, so far, unsystematically. There is a beach, though the sand is dark and heavy. But the point about Lachi is a certain sense of composition. There is the wide arc of Khrysokhou Bay, the mountains, the usual dilapidations of old fishing boats and a cafe - serving excellent fish sprawling casually along the harbour. You should go there some time, even if it is autumn, you came over the

the wife is knocking back Metaxa to bring feeling back into her limbs. Cyprus is worth it because it

is oot predictable. Its layers are uneasily crushed against each other, and the whole edifice is dominated by the crippling and disorienting fact of the occupation of the oorth. It is an island with a refugee mentality, the sense of a lost and divided land. "Don't cross the Green Line," the guides tell you, "we cannot help you if you do." In almost every town and village there is a deserted mosque, abandoned when the Muslim Turks fled to the north, and on the approach road to the airport at Larnaca there is one sad notice. Most signs io Cyprus are bilingual, this one is only in English.

"Remember the Turkish Invasion," it says. The Greeks, of course, don't need to be told.

TRAVEL NOTES

A week at the Annabelle

hotel, via Sovereign Holidays (0293 519151), varies from 2241 In November-December to £361 in March and, at the Paphos Beach (for which Sovereign also takes bookings) between £221 and £344. Flights to Paphos are from Luton and Manchester and to Lamaca from Heathrow.

Nestling among the flowers: the church of Panayia Theoskepasti near Paphos, on the south-west coast

Cypriot style of selling is also

mercifully low-key.
On the other side of the strip, hotels are being built. the oew tourist industry. Ours - the Annabelle - was as wellequipped and as comfortable as anything in the world. The beach, bowever, is vestigial and rocky, a problem for large parts of Cyprus, and there was a good deal of engineering work going on to improve this

state of affairs. But, for all the Annabelle's smartness, its food was a catastrophe. Dinner at its international restaurant appeared to be some kind of malevolent joke — a soup described as "gazpacho" resembled meited chocolate ice-cream - and even breakfast bread was never quite fresh. Its Taverna was bear-Theseus. All these mosaics able, though it erred wildly toward the olive oil-orgy end of Greek cuisine. This was all the more

puzzling as the general standard among the dozens of cafés and restaurants opposite was surprisingly high. Food was fresh and grilled haloumi with the local wine for lunch was a perfect and alwaysavailable staple.

Escaping the sadistic intentions of the Annabelle's chef, however, was best achieved by travelling about three-quarters of a mile down the strip to the Sunbow. Clearly the best restaurant in case, if you have told them it's your birthday, you won't know the difference by the end



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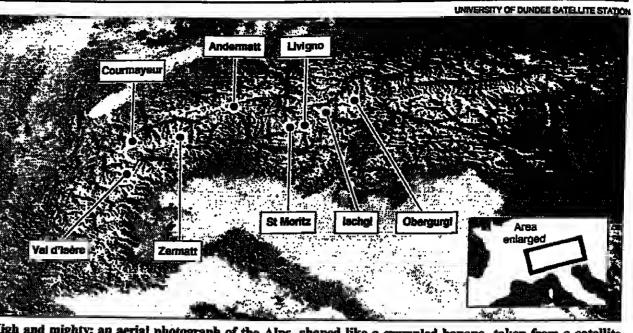
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TRAVEL



High and mighty: an aerial photograph of the Alps, shaped like a crumpled banana, taken from a satellite

New view of the Alps

W.J. Burroughs begins the

ost skiers are in-clined to form a parochial view of ski resorts, choosing them for various reasons some rational, some less so. The logical choice may draw on past experience combined with careful inspection of brochures and guide-books. the range of runs, the quality of the lift systems, the reput-ation of the ski-school and the facilities for children. But preferences for a traditional atmosphere, a desire to go somewhere fashionable or simply the look of the resort in the brochure, may influence

the final choice, Once in the mountains, the view becomes localized and can often depend entirely on the weather. In a large resort, during a two-week holiday, is is difficult to get to know what is available, let alone get a feel for how the resort fits in to the overall pattern of the moun-tains. Even the skiing equiva-lent of "twitchers", who set off at the crack of dawn so that they can claim they have skied every resort in a region, gain little more insight.

Although regular skiers build up an increasingly com-prehensive view of the different ski areas, it is rare that this can, on its own, provide a complete assessment of what the Alps have to offer.

Seen from space, the snowcovered Alps look like a huge, crumpled banana, some 500

season's regular snow reports with a guide to what to expect in the Alpine resorts this winter

miles long. Starting behind Monaco, with the Maritime Alps, the mountains sweep north and then east round the top of Italy, through France. Switzerland and Austria, to peter out in eastern Austria, close to the Yugoslav border. Rarely more than 50 miles wide, the Alps constitute a relatively narrow, but formidable, barrier between much of northern Europe and

the Mediterranean. From this perspective, it is easier to see how the various aspects of the weather interact with the mountains to produce different results. Most important is that the two principal sources of snow are fronts associated with depressions moving from the Atlantic across northern Eurbe valuable ope, and less frequently from low pressure systems moving prevailing westerly winds in a normal winter, which bring a

up from the Mediterranean. Fronts moving from the westerly quadrant tend to produce general snowfall on the northern side of the Alps, but with the French end usually getting the best of the falls. Lows moving in from the south produce more varied and localized effects. Depending on their path and progress, they can produce heavy falls anywhere on the southern side of the Alps, and may spill over to the northern resorts. When it is cold and there is

plenty of snow, considerations of meteorology and topography are of relatively little importance, as most resorts offer reasonable conditions. here is really no sub-stitute for height and plenty of north-facing

slopes to eke out meagre falls of snow. When the snow is patchy, as happened for both the early part of last season and for a number of Christmases in the 1980s, then additional information may The Alps interact with the

mixture of ups and downs as fronts cross the mountains. Anything that protects a resort from the mild spells for a day or two can make a difference when snow is sparse.

There is some evidence that those resorts on the fringes of

sitive to sudden changes, and those perched above the widest valleys, like the Rhône, also seem to be vulnerable. By way of contrast, those sheltered in the heart of the mountains appear to be better, off. Examples of resorts which benefit from both positionand altitude are, travelling from west to east, Val d'Isère, Courmayeur, Zermatt, Andermatt, St Moritz, Livigno, Ischgl and Obergurgi.

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But do not attach too much importance to remoteness. There are striking exceptions, especially in the French Alos. which catch the best of the moister air from the Atlantic. Flaine and Avoriaz are only short distances from Geneva Airport but they have good snow records. Conditions are dominated by the succession of events; over the years the shelter pays off and may make all the difference during a lean

So consulting an atlas may be worthwhile, even though it should not radically alter choices. It may, however, help to put the information in the brochures into context and help to interpret the flow of data published.

 The Times will be providing weekly analyses designed to provide a balanced picture of how the weather is affecting conditions in the Alps and highlighting particular areas that are doing better or worse

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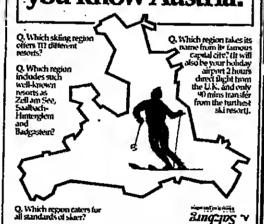
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TRAVEL

Santa Claus or bust

Rival claims are made for Santa's homeland. Hilary Finch put on her moonboots and combed the frozen north to track him down



Supper time: shiny noses and reindeer stew at 30° below

he ordeals by fire and water of Pamina and Tamino in The Magic Flute had nothing on this. Absolutely Pamina nothing. One night I found myself enveloped in reindeer skins lying on a pile of birch twigs on the forest floor. It was 70° north and 25°C below. The snow floated down, the sparks from the log fire flew up: the choice was to be hurned or turned to ice. The next night it was a water-bed green in the northern sky. in a hotel room heated to 25°C The next morning, Into's above, and every window locked fast. All this to the

cause of establishing once and for all the true dwelling-place of Santa Claus. I had started in the height of the Arctic summer in Greenland: it was as near as I could get to the North Pole. I hiked across mosquito-infested tundra and found an Eskimo mayor at Kangeriussuaq who received thousands of dummies (the kind you suck) every year, painfully surrendered by Eskimo toddlers in exchange for the promise of Christmas presents. The Greenland leaflet adorned with a Trade Department in Copco-colour photo of the Great hagen forwards 30,000 letters himself.

a year. I was not convinced. told that here there was a team nf 14 Santas who take it in turns to come down from the mountains in December and distribute presents in the centre nf Reykjavik. In Sweden, Jultomte, once just a Christmas leprechaun who lived under the floorboards and looked after the Come Vikke, Tupu, et livestock, now

rules a holiday snack at Rovaniemi centre halfway up the Gesunda mountain near Mora. No upwardly mobile

Santa for me . . . In Norway I was almost ennvinced. A very nice man called Arild Kristiansen runs the Oslo Tourist Board, answers some 65,000 letters a year, and has a reindeer called Rudolph. But then the revelatinn came. I read in a Finnish book that in 1927 Santa had finally settled on Korvaiunturi Fell, poised on the Soviet border, high enough to oversee north and south, east and west. More snow, more hours of darkness, far more Christmas trees. I set

The nearest airport was Ivalo. I arrived at 4pm; it was dark as midnight, minus 21°C. and the sigos were in Finnish and Lapp. Even the aeroplane had a ruddy-faced old man with a red hat painted on the side. It looked promising. I drove along the long spark-ling Aretic Road to Inari. where I would stay the night. Fields, rivers, lakes were indistinguishable one from the other, their hrilliant moonlit whiteness made headlights barely necessary; pine and birch forest covered every mound and hill with a dense white fur.

At lnari I changed to rein-deer sledge for the last 40minute track through the forest to my teepee at Kaksamajarvi. Into and Maarit-Anna Paadar were my hosts, with their 10-year-old son Janni and their reindeer dog Compi. They cast aside my moonboots for shoes of reindeer fur, packed with hay in a hird's nest of insulation. They piled skins of deer and bear over my totally inadequate thermal coat, filled me up with reindeer stew and a well on his way back to the fiery colnurless liquid called Pole, in search of snow.

koso. While Maarit boiled kettle after kettle of coffee over the fire, she quietly sang joiku. the sensuously melodic Sami songs from her own region, further north by the Teno river, Into and Janni went off at lam to finish herding and separating the reindeer. At 2am the temperature had dropped low enough and the moon risen high enough for the first, snake-like appearance of the aurora borealis, pale blue and

great-uncle Matti arrived for coffee. He had panned gold and killed bears in his youth; now he helps Into with the herd. The 5,000 Sami of Finnish Lapland are not hlind to the effect that their frocks of red, yellow and green, their four-cornered hats of hlue and their curly-toed fur boots have on the visitor from afar. Diverted momentarily by the comucopia of silver brooches, exquisitely carved knives and round, birchwood cups at Samekki Crafts, just off the Ivalo Road, I chanced oo a colour photo of the Great Man

His name, it appeared, was On to Iceland, I had been Joulupukki, and he had sld that here moved, just this

month, down to the Arctic Circle and a town called Rovaniemi. Io the moonlit polar dawn of softly diffused pick, purple and blue, I set my compass for the south. It was at

Rovaniemi, the land, that I found the Hotel Polar and the water-bed. What is cetera: a sphagnum bed. more, the way to

his house was clearly signposted. In 10 minutes after breakfast I was there. Joulupukki was busy at his word-processor answering 350,000 letters from 117

countries. He had a woolly bed to rest nn during the day. 51 red-clad clves (some of them with American accents) in help him answer 60,000 phone calls on 13 lines, and four reindeer called Vikke, Tupu, Hupu and Lupu, who were gorging themselves silly on pre-packed sphagnum moss.

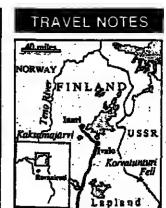
the Santa Claus Village the activity is frenetic stamping, franking, posting and wrapping, the din of cash registers and sleigh bells. It is indicative if a race against time in both the short and long term. lo 1984 the Finnish government decided on the use of Santa Claus in marketing Lapland .. as a province of peace and goodwill"; and in four years' time the hotels were full.

But suddenly there seemed to be less snow. Even as plans go ahead for the village to expand - more craft workshops, more kitchens and a massive underground development - the greenhouse

effect is being felt. This will not stop the Finns. By the year 2000 accommodatioo in Lapland will have doubled; Santa's glass factory, his zoo at Ranua, his skislopes at Luosto will have transformed the Lapp econ-omy; and Finnair, "The of-ficial airline of Santa Claus", will be causing air-traffic chaos at the Arctic Circle. But perhaps another 500 years on, Joulupukki himself will be



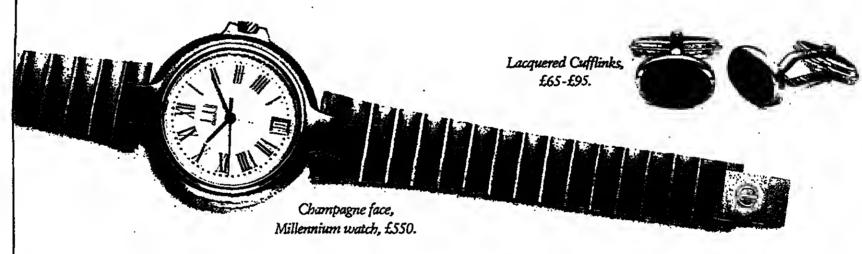
Father Christmas lives in Finland, where he tends his four reindeer and answers 350,000 letters a year

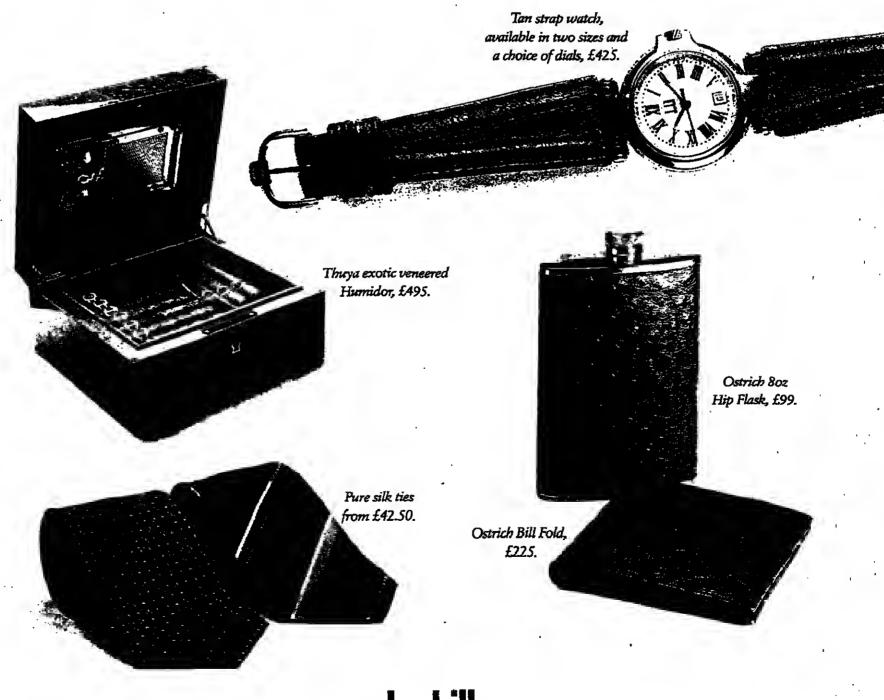


before the great thaw should book now for Christmas 1989. Accommodation at Inari with Into and Maarit Paadar at Inarin Porofermi, Kaksamajārvi, 99870 Inari, Finland; or, for syberites, at the cosy Hotel Inarin Kultahovi, 99870 Inari. In Rovaniemi from £35 a night at the Arctia Hotel Polar, Valtakatu 23, 96200 Polar, Valtakatu 23, 96200
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● RACING 48-49

British indoor revolution gathers pace

ities in Britain - begun this year by the Lawn Tennis Association - is receiving a positive response from the public, with increased numbers taking up the game.

Britain's steady decline, both in tournament play and international team competitions, has persuaded the LTA to invest a substantial partof the massive annual profits from Wimbledon in launching their Indoor Tennis Initiative. The Davis Cup final, the unofficial world team championsbip, in Gothenburg this weekend, comes as a reminder that it is 10 years since Britain contested the final; 12 days ago the nation lost ignominiously to Indonesia in the women's equivalent, the Federation Cup; there is no British man in the world's top 150; no British woman in the top 50.

The ITI scheme, which targets 50 indoor centres by is beginning to bear fruit. Four are already operative and the first, opened at St Albans in May, reports an encouraging response.

lan Peacock, the chief executive of the LTA, says: "With 900 have taken up a prior children of 13-15 years old, booking facility, which is now tennis has had a good image

Tired of being regarded as a thirdrate tennis nation,

Britain is counting on the Indoor Tennis Initiative to produce a champion. John

Goodbody reports on the positive response from the public

despite the lack of outstanding British figures. But by the age of 24, tennis has not been one of their sports. It had failed to live up to their aspirations." The Batchwood centre in St Albans has been a pioneer for the LTA in trying to change these attitudes.More than 16,000 people have used the centre since it opened in May;

oversubscribed

courts has averaged 75 per cent - 80 per cent from 8 a. m. to 11 p. m., seven days a week. The centre has five new outdoor courts, open the same hours. These enjoyed 37 per cent usage in July, traditionally the most popular period because of the interest generated through Wimble-don, but by the end of November the usage had fallen to 12 per cent.

Phil Sandlilands, the ITT's project manager, says: "It is important to have outdoor courts, because during the summer people do like playing outdoors. They become drawn into the sport and continue playing during the winter on the indoor courts."

Anyone can use the "pay-as you-play" centres, which will provide coaches with expanding opportunities for professional teaching, raise competitive standards, bring a boom in the sport's dev-clopment and could ultimately lead to a men's singles champion at Wimbledon for the first time since

Britain may have had 600 outdoor courts per one million head of population, compared to West Germany,

whom have 350 courts for the areas and other facilities. Nine same proportion of the population. But, as the LTA airhalls, will open in 1989, points out, many were often although, even by the end of badly kept and, more im- next year, Britain will still portantly, in the winter evenings or in the rain or wind of million population. a typical English summer.

could scarcely be used, West Germany and Sweden who are contesting the Davis Cup final - and France have benefited in the number of covered courts they possess. Britain has had only The facilities are designed four courts per millioo people,

West Germany had 50 courts, France 60 and Sweden 170. So the ITI was devised, using the annual profits from Wimbledon, which were less than £1 million in 1982 but. have since risen to £7.6 million. The LTA has forever hlessed the agreement it made in 1934 — that its annual championships would be staged at Wimbledon, with a joint committee of the All England Club and the LTA, but that the profits of the champiouships should go to the governing body after the

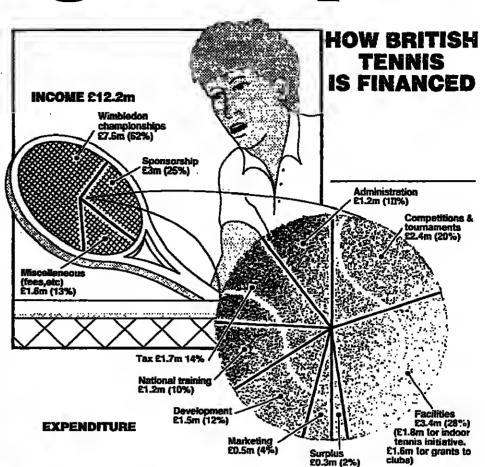
cluh had deducted reasonable The four centres opened the other three are at Swansea, Sunderland and Warrington - have a total of 16

have only eight courts per

The LTA, the All England Club and the Sports Council have each pledged to the ITI at least £500,000 annually for five years with individual local councils providing the

not as clubs but as places where members of the public can simply book and play, practise under instruction or enter open tournaments. It has been particularly important to attract new participants into the sport and keep youngsters who had taken up the game. School championships, indoor county championships and winter ratings tournaments have been staged at the new centres.

As Peacock says: "The success of countries like France and West Germany in producing outstanding players has followed about five years after a boom in the sport in those countries. If we get a similar boom of playing and interest in Britain, the talent will look







The ghost of tennis ladies to come

By Rex Bellamy Tennis Correspondent

Bisham, just outside Marlow, supposedly has a ghost that of Lady Elizabeth Hoby (the Hinbys were big around Bisham). She is said to linger among the surviving fragments of a fourteenth-century priory in the grounds of Bisham Abbey, the Lawn Tennis Association's national training

One vaguely wondered if Lady Elizabeth (assuming she was on duty) had any spirited asides to affer yesterday on the last four contenders in a tournament sponsored hy Corporate Estates Properties for girls aged 12 or less.

At that age girls look rather like an

pipes lacking muscular lagging. Their figures, like their tennis, tend to be straight up and down, with no inhibiting convexities. There is an engagingly gawky, slightly self-conscious air about them: and they think boys are awful. But what fan they are to watch: as refreshing as the first flowering of

In the spring of life we are, or were, anxioas to measure up to the world's expectations - and every horizon looks attainable. Not now, not tomorrow, hut one day. Moreover, in the preteenage years we know the real meaning of words like despite, dis-interested, intrigue and terrific and are not naughty enough to use nouns as adjectives. Later, horizons recede and words are corrupted.

The lasses who have been playing at Bisham Abbey since Tuesday are still on the exciting side of the frontier between confidence and hope. They came, 24 of them, from various outposts of England, Scotland and Wales (in one case, via an overnight sleeper from the land of resurgent nationalism).

Ten emerged from regional qualifying events and the rest were invited. This past week has been special, not least because they were competing in the nuly 12-and-under event in the winter series run by the LTA training department. It is not an official championship but there are two of those: played in Edinburgh in May and Eastbourne in August.

The LTA is wary of making

excessive demands of the very young. Binny Blackburn, who has been running the all-girl show, is one of a team of part-time coaches who tour the regions getting to know evidently promising children. She explained yesterday: "With these young girls we keep it low-keyed and in proportion. If they win, we don't let it go to their heads. And we use these events for training, as well as competition".

Children who are hungry enough and good enough will continue to benefit from subsidized competition and coaching at regional level. Such subsidies are necessary. A tennis education is expensive for parents The bills can haunt them. Occasionally, so does Lady Elizabeth

League pledge more aid for

England team The England manager, Bobby Robson, was told by the Football League yesterday that he can have two weekends free each season to prepare his team before im-

portant international matches. The League will not make big demands on the FA for compensation for postponed fixtures but their goodwill gesture looks likely to hit an immediate snag, for the two games Robson would want help with next season, against Sweden and Poland, fall within five weeks of each

other in the autumn.
Acting secretary, David
Dent, admitted: "We wouldn't want to have two Saturdays out of five blank at the start of the season."

Jack Dunnett, the League ous efforts to ensure that the president, who announced the blow to football is softened, concession after a manage "Everyone is eager to elimi- meot committee meeting said: nate hooliganism, but the "We are offering the FA two scheme still may not achieve free Saturdays. They will the Government's objective make their suggestions and we because most trouble takes will do our best to meet

Bruno a knockout in dress rehearsal

Frank Bruno was unveiled to the American public on Thursday and to any casual onlooker not familiar with the personalities of the heavyweight trade he came acros like a champion, while Mike Tyson came across more like the proverbial "Burn of the Month" wheeled in to give boxing another rich payday.

"If Frank handles himself in the ring half as well as he does outside," ooted a usually cynical scribe who showed up to cover the Press Conference to confirm the bout for February 25 at the Las Vegas Hilton. Then Mike will have his work cut out to hold the

Bruno, aged 27, certainly looked the part, at a well-muscled 6ft 3in (four inches taller than Tyson) the epitome of sartorial elegance, encased m a double-breasted pinstripe

suit. He refused to get involved in bad-mouthing Tyson, whose troubles over the past marathon television soap opera. He had flown in from London the night before but showed no sign of jet-lag. He was polite, and when journal-

champion, he cleverly ducked, weaved and emerged with not a hair out of place and without taking a single punch.

Tyson, on the other hand,

looked as though he had been up all night and had slept in his oyster-coloured suit. He looked chuhhy and out of shape. He was, he confessed, 20lbs overweight at 240lbs, the heaviest he has ever been seen in public. Bruno refused to be lured

into wild predictions and staunchly countered questions like, "Do you have any hope of winning," with, "I wouldn't be here if I didn't have a chance...don't you think that's a crazy, unfair question?" In another corner of the room Tyson continued to wrestle with the personal demons that continue to haunt

him outside the ring. City, New Jersey, when a Long Island woman, Lori Davis, six months would be grist for a charged that Tyson had sexually molested her in a Man- February 25th. I won't talk hattan disco.

wants \$1 million (about ists tried to get him involved and mental anguish", which is

in a verbal brawl with the about the same as Tyson's challengers have received for taking grievous punishment in

> Divorce proceedings with the actress, Rohin Givens, dominated most of the past few months as Tyson and his estranged wife went public with their bitter personal angst, including charges that her famous husband was a disturbed man who ought to be taking medication to control his manic depressive na-

On the boxing froot there have also been public squabbles with his manager, Bill Cayton. Tyson recently fired his long-standing trainer, Kevin Rooney.

Bruno has tried to distance himself from Tyson's problems. "Deep down somewhere, all of this is going to affect him along the line," he The latest blow aimed at the said. "We're all human. Tyson champion came in Garden cries and bleeds. He's human.I'm just grateful that be's here and be's confirming that we have a date on about his private life because For that brief encounter she that's private, but I pray he'll get madder and more frus-£550,000) for "trauma shock trated and maybe lose

Simon Barnes's sporting diary, page 10

The perfect introduction to geography FAMILY EDITION

assortment of more or less vertical Cards cost will be £34 million

By Clive White

The cost to football of the Government's proposed membership scheme is £34 million. That is how much the Football League has discovcred it will cost to install the necessary equipment at the 92 grounds - and the League wants to be sure that it works properly before embarking upon such a massive financial

The League want the Government to agree to a pilot scheme and it is possible that they could be amenable to such an idea. Colin Moymhan, the Minister for Sport, said recently: "We want to make sure that the technology is foolproof and effective before the system is introduced. but we also need a realistic

deadline." The cost of the Government's ambitious plans to eradicate hooliganism from the sport was made known this week when the management consultants, Arthur commissioned by the League,

produced their independent

The consultants' view was that there should be a trial run on at least one ground before the money is spent to see whether the system works," Jack Dunnett, the League president, said yesterday.
"Whether the Government will tolerate that, we don't know. But we'll put it to them. If we put in all the equipment and people are not getting into grounds, you have wasted £34

Dunnett wants to see a pilot ham Athletic, respectively, scheme at three clubs, of Jack Crawford, the League's various sizes, attracting large, medium and small attendances. "It wouldn't involve, ation's commercial director, the whole ground, but would and Glen Kirton, an FA help us find out where the official. gremlins are," he said.

As expected, the consultants do not believe it is possible for football to meet the Govern-ment's planned deadline of spring, 1990, simply because supplies of equipment are unlikely to be available. But the Government have warned that they do not intend to

allow the scheme's introduc- what to do about FMA and the tion to be deferred indefinitely necessary equipment if the bill and Dunnett promised that is passed," Dunnett said. they would not "hold up on

the Government". thority (FMA) who will orchestrate the scheme.

It will consist of Graham Kelly, the FA chief executivedesignate, Gordon McKeag and lan Stott, the chairmen of Newcastle United and Oldcrowd control adviser, Trevor Phillips, the Football Associ-

The committee is being set up in anticipation of the Government's Football Membership Bill, which should be published in the second week of January. "When it comes out the subcommittee will be in a position to consider the implications and recommend

Nearly 100 companies are vying for the lucrative busi-The League have set up a ness of installing the equipsix-man sub-committee to ment and some have even consider the creation of the suggested that it could be done Football Membership Au- without any cost to football if the sport was prepared to pass on membership lists so that the information could be

marketed. A separate authority will be given power to license only those clubs and stadiums with the necessary equipment. If a club cannot afford to install it, then it will have to drop out of the League. Some may feel inclined to do just that and join an expanded and regionalised GM Vauxhall Conference.

Dunnett has made strennplace ontside grounds."

To a Liverpool supporter, Anfield is both the holy of holies and a home from home. Ian Ross analyses its peculiar magic

Inside the shrine

high percentage of teams arriving at Anfield are ofico said to bave accepted defeat long before they pull on their boots. This perennial acceptance of a supporting role is perhaps understandable, bearing in mind Liverpool's remarkable achievements over the past 20

But it continues to amuse the club's employees, who regard Anfield as a welcoming, innmely sort of place, one which belies the media's image of it as "iotimidating" or impregnable".

Footballing novices keen to impress would be forgiven for believing that they are enter-ing not so much a centre of sporting excellence as a venerable institution of almost religious proportions. The ground has been likened to a shrine where those who gather do so to pay homage rather than merely to support, and although such a comparison could be coostrued as blasphemnus in a region steeped



in religious history, it perhaps apt. Although the peculiarly

low-key atmosphere of the club is explained by Kenny Dalglish, the team manager, wheo he astutely describes it as "a community within a community", Anfield, like the Goodison Park home of its neighbours Evertnu, is an casis in a desert to many of those who seek solace in the actions of others. Liverpool supporters entrust their Saturday happiness to a chosen few and expect wild dreams to become vivid reality. They are rarely disappointed.

The ground's recently refur-

bished interior may not be paved in gold, as the young are informed at their grandfathers' knee, but around every corner is a timely reminder, were it required, of the enormous success the club has enjoyed since reclaiming its first division place at the end of the 1961-62 season. An illustrious past is laid alongside a comparable present in the form of hundreds of pieces

nf memorabilia.

It is perhaps no accident that the casual onlooker, as be strolls through the club's corridors of power, finds it difficult to move more than a few feet without being confronted by a photograph of one of European football's more glittering prizes being beld aloft by a beaming Liverpool captain. If even the slightest of psychological advantages can be attained by the nailing of what may seem a relatively unimportant artefact to a vacant wali-space, there will be no shortage of people willing to wield a hammer.

The compact nature of



Kenny Dalglish: "The clab is always going to be far more important, far bigger, than any one individual. We are reaping the benefits of Bill Shankly's work."

Anfield is such that it is virtually impossible to seek shelter from high-profile reminders of Liverpool's pedigree. At the top of the main staircase is a roll of honour listing the achievements of the club's many international

phy room, where crystal, silver and gold items reflect achievements stretching back to the 1920s.

The propaganda war contin-

players, past and present. The uses deep in the bowels of smudged fingerprints of those landing which it graces leads Anfield. As a visiting team more superstitious Liverpool directly to the expansive tro-makes its way down the tunnel players who believe that brief makes its way down the tunnel towards the pitch, looming above them and boasting the club's liver bird logo and the famous legend This is famous legend This is Anfield is a sign bearing the

contact with the succinct message will bring them good fortune throughout the ensuing 90 minutes. The words "expect little and you will not be disappointed could be

added without even the slightest hint of arrogance.
Housed alongside the two
dressing-rooms is the famous "boot room", a small storage area for footwear which has traditionally doubled as the nerve-centre for successive managerial teams. It is here, after games, that tactics are discussed, mistakes analysed, blame and praise apportioned. If there is a secret to Liverpool's success, it is probably hidden away in here along

with laces and studs. "There is oo real mystery about the boot room, it is the people in it that count," Dalglish says. "We discuss many, many topics in there, not just football. It has become famous down the years but it is simply a place where the manager can meet with the

rest of the backroom staff for private cussions." dis-

Since succeeding Joe Fagan as man-ager 24 hnurs after the 1985 Heysel Stadium tragedy, Dalglishstriven to uphold the values and ethics of his predeto single out the unique bond between club and supporter as one of the more salient reasons for Liver-

pool's success. "This club's never lost its identity," he says. "I don't know why that should be. The people of this city can relate to the players out oo the pitch. They have a tremendons mutual respect.

The club is always going to be far more important, far bigger, than any one individual. This family feeling was instigated by Bill Shankly. We are reaping the benefits of his work and realizing his dreams. "The supporters accept that anyone wearing the red shirt

will always give 100 per cent. That is all they ask of us and all we can do to repay them for their loyalty." A recent development is the deliberate lack of promotion, has already been visited by more than 10,000 people since

of Liverpool Football Club

it was officially npened in Supporters are greeted by an audio tape of the late Bill Shankly, the club's manager between 1959 and 1974,

inimitable style, a Cup Final defeat and praising those who had travelled to Wembley forthe manner in which they had. enhanced the reputation of Merseysiders as passinnate'but fair folk.

A short video picking out a few of the clob's highlights preaches to the already converted as reminders of more bumble beginnings nestled be-hind plate glass. The spoils of recent victories are also kept here in a case large enough to-accommodate again the Euro-pean Cup, which the club has won four times.

The almost hypnotic effect which Anfield has on those who cross its threshold is limited these days to sports lovers. In July 1984 Dr Billy Graham, the American evangelist, beld eight rallies at the ground, preaching to a total audience of more than 200,000

He was so captivated by the warmth of his welcome that he presented to the club a bit. and a plaque enscribed with a the words: "Multitudes, mul-titudes — in the valley of-

decision, Joel III." The quote is appropriate io: The fact more ways than four sides Although Animest sports stadi-ums in Britain, the ground expansion of the. Kemlyn Road stand, scheduled for 1983 but then scheduled go ahead.

covered factors will govern means our decisions that whether the club is_ to be allowed back-Anfield into Europe, and the effects of any card membership sounds scheme," full even Robinson, Liverpool's chief execwhen it utive, says. "At the moment' isn't'

we are selling every games and obvirequire more. ground capacity is 45,000 which includes 21,500 seats.

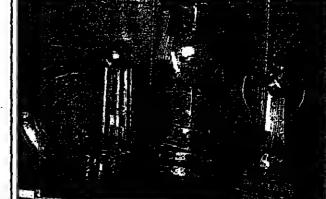
Peter_

The ultimate aim is to raisethat capacity to 50,000, with 50 per cent of that figure taken up by scating" After 23 years at the club,

Robinson is one of the first to ackonwledge the special charm and charisma that pervade Anfield. " I think it is true to say that a great many people are slightly in awe of ... Antield and what it represents... The fact that all four sides of the ground are covered has a dramatic effect in terms of acoustics. The noise generated means that the ground sounds. full even when it isn't.

People have said that this 'Antield roar' is worth a goal start to the team. I am not so sure about that, but let's just say I don't think that it has."; hindered us down the years."





Glittering prizes for the League Champions: top, the 1979-80, winning team; above, this year's trophy is given pride of place





Minor slump is no reason for Norwich to ring the changes

The last thing that Arsenal will want today is any favours from Liverpool. While a victory by the champions against Norwich City, the League leaders, would give Arsenal the opportunity to go top, it would also mean that the men from Merseyside remain right on their tail as they go into the crucial holiday programme. Kenny Dalglish was con-

· In culiar mag

fined to his bed yesterday, though that may have as much to do with Liverpool's sickening home form as a bout of influenza. Their rather fortuitous draw against Everton last Sunday was their fifth in eight league matches at Anfield this season and

Houghton's goal only their ninth in front of the Kop.

Yet Liverpool remain fourth in the table just three points behind Arsenal, even if the Londoners do have a game in hand. If one was unprepared for Liverpool's display of human weakness, particularly after last season's devastating success, one was even less ready for Norwich's

determined pace-setting. It would be easy to say that Norwich's recent form - five games without a win - was more like their old selves, but there is no obvious reason for their sudden decline other than the short, temporary loss, initially through injury, of Rosario and Crook.

By Louise Taylor

The Football League yesterday won a High Coart ruling allowing them to call in a £1.9 million bond from Middlesbrough. Pat up by shareholders of the club, which was re-formed two anda half years ago, the bond guaranteed the debts outstanding when the old club folded.

Subsequently, Middlesbrough

sequently Middleshr Sussequenty Mindlesimough have risen from the third to the first division and recently in-vested £750,000 in signing Peter Davenport from Manchester United. However, creditors, mainly former directors, claim the club owes them a total of

Jack Dunnett, the League president, said yesterday: "We made it a condition of Middlesbrough staying in the League that they paid all creditors 100 per cent. But Middlesbrough have said that, in their view,

"The Judge has not finally adjudicated on whether the creditors should be paid, but he has ruled that we can call in the bond."

onsortium of well-established local businessmen including representatives from ICI and Scottish and Newcastle Breweries, so the calling in of the bond is unlikely to precipitate another financial crisis at Ayresome Park.

Tom Hughes, the club sec-retary, said he was not in a position to comment on the situation last night. Similarly, a League spokeswoman said she was awaiting detailed reports from its staff representative in court before discussing the

21 games, face a severe examination at Windsor Park

a side that has shrugged off an indifferent start to the season.

Defeat by Glentoran in the Roadferry Cup final and drop-ping three points to Larne last

weekend were setbacks Roy Coyle, the Liofield manager,

could have dooe without. He

reluctant to place 100 much emphasis on the defeat by Glentorao, but last week's loss at Larne still rankles. "While

BSB contract

is won by

McCormack

Mark McCormack's influence

in British sport widened percep-tishly yesterday when his tele-vision production company, TWI, signed an exclusive con-

this afternoon against Colerai

may be tempted to recall Davenport." Rush, who has recovered from

his hip injury. George Graham is another manager who steadfastly refuses to change a failing team for the match against Manchester United at Highbury. Not many changes present themselves, but the claims of Davis cannot be casy to overlook as Arsenal search for inspiration. Graham believes that Davis who finished serving a mine match would benefit as well as
Arsenal by missing his thirteenth consecutive game to improve his fitness playing for

Alex Ferguson can only dream about such continuity in his team selection. An injury to Garton means that the Manchester United manager may have to blood another unknown, Wayne Heseltine, aged 19, from Bradford He joins up in a 14man squad with the likes of Beardsmore, Gill, Sharpe and Martin, household names only in their own houses.

ager, has shown impressive hinted at a lack of sympathy nerve in the face of this minor for his fellow Scot when he crisis by refusing to make said: "Alex has been very wholesale changes and keeps. brave and let in a lot of the side which drew with unknown boys. But he has observation. Arsenal last week. Dalglish is been forced into that situation disciplination of the field against likely to follow suit, though he by selling Olsen and Hibernian at Ibrox Park this

With the sort of child-like has not given up hope of challengers regard them as dis-winning the title. "Any team tinctly vulnerable.

the leading teams have been floundering in recent weeks, Coventry City seem to have hing on to their form better than most. Having sneaked quietly into third place they received further encouragement for the game against Derby County at Highfield Road with Bennett's return to the squad for the first time since breaking his leg in the last match against Derby.

Tottenham Hotspur's new goalkeeper, Thorstvedt, plays for the reserves today after suffering from flu earlier in the week which means that Mimms keeps goal against West Ham United at Upton Park for possibly the last time Graham, who last week in a very long while if the declined to sell Quinn, his Norwegian proves as good as reserve striker, to Wimbledon, his reports.

High Court Bayern tie should for League sell out Tynecastle

the tie they would have pre-ferred when the draw for UEFA Cup quarter-finals was made in Zurich yesterday. But they were scarcely unhappy when the bal-lot paired them with Bayern Manich, of West Germany. The first leg, at Tynecastle, will be played on March I with the return in Munich two weeks later.

The Edinburgh players had been stimulated by the notion of playing Napoli, complete with Maradona, but Alex Mac-Donald, the Hearts manager, said: This is a tie which will excite our supporters and fill Tynecastle, I would think there will be quite a rush for tickets to see a team of the calibre of Bayern Munich and we are very pleased to have missed the likes of Victoria Bucharest and Dynamo Dresden, having made a trip to Yugoslavia in the previous round."

The Hearts captain, Gary MacKay, was equally satisfied with the luck of the draw. "Everybody is very pleased with the prospect of facing Bayern. When you get to this stage in a European tournament, especially the UEFA Cup, you have done a lot of hard work and you hope for the chance to show what you can do on the big

"Add to that the fact that we should be much stronger on the playing side by then, with Tosh McKinlay and John Robertson eligible to play and Craig Levein and Sandy Clark likely to be back after injury, and we should be in a confident mood.

We would have given Bayern a lot of respect in any case, but there is no chance that we will treat them lightly in any way after their victory in the last

Glentoran travel to Ards only

two points adrift of Linfield at

the top of the table and anything less than three points from their visit will be a major surprise while Crusaders have a chance to bid farewell to their bottom

spot when they entertain Distill-

ery at Seaview. And Jimmy

Hill's Carrick Rangers are io

Linfield on the alert

Linfield, wobbling io recent weeks after an uobeaten run of 21 games, face a severe examination at Windsor Park erated." Coyle said.

Heart of Midlothian failed to get round. Any team which can go the tie they would have pre- to the San Siro stadium and take three goals off Inter Milan has to be amongst the favourites to win

the cup."
The draw paired both the remaining East European teams, Victoria Bucharest and Dyname Dresden, as well the Italian survivors, Napoli and Javentus. The other West German representatives, VFB Stattgart will play Real Sociedad, the Spanish club whose manager is the former Liverpool and Wales player, John Toshack.

goalkeeper, out of retirement at the age of 42. "Alex and I go back a long way and I was delighted to accept his short-term signing offer. He had invited me along on Hearts' next European trip in

would need my boots as The reserve keeper is Mark
Cairns, aged 19, whose inexperience had worried MacDonald.

ZURICH (AFP) — Sweden

Nevertheless, they feel that McCloy said. will stage the 1992 European

Ouarter-final draws CHAPTEF-IHIAI GRAWS
EUROPEAN CUP: IFK Gothenburg v
Steaua Buchareat Werder Bremen v AC
Milan; PSV Enotwen v Real Madric;
Monaco v Galatasaray (Turkey).
EUROPEAN CUP WRAVERS* CUP:
Entracht Frankfurt v Mechelen (Bel);
CSKA Sollav V Roda JC Kerkrade (Neth);
Dynamo Buchareat v Sampdorfa, Aartus
(Den) v Barcelona (Sp).
UEFA CUP: Victoria Buchareat v Dynamo
Dreaden; VIB Stuttgart v Real Sociedad;
Hearts v Bayern Municit; Juvenius v
Napoli.
(Ties to be played over two legs on a home
and away basis on March 1 and 15 with
the first named team at home in the first
leg.)

Wolverhampton Wanderers, the holders, can look forward to another bumper crowd next month after drawing Bristol Ciry, who are previous winners, in the first round proper of the Sherpa Van Trophy.

Bristol City have featured in two of the four finals. They beat Bolton 3-0 at Wembley in 1986 but lost to Mansfield 5-4 on penalties last year.

Cost Watford £105,000 — a fee fixed by a tribunal — from swindom during the summer and has scored four goals in 21 games.

SHEPPA VAN TROPHY: First round proper dease, Northern saccion: Europey or winners with Croup four winners with the penalties last year.

penalties last year.

The Swansea City team will fly to Spain on Monday to play a friendly against Real Societad, managed by Joho Toshack.

Dave Bamber, the Watford forward, is expected to move to Stoke in a £190,000 transfer. He

FOR THE RECORD

tract to produce the sports programmes for British Satellite Broadcasting's Now channel when it comes on screen next CENTRAL LEAGUE First division: Eventon 0. Nucleirafield Town 0; Derby County 0. Sheffield United 3. Second division: Derling-ton 0. Wagen Athletic ... CAPITAL LEAGUE: Ended 2. Weekstone 3. The contract, the first BSB has signed with a production company to supply programmes to my field, was won by TWI in competition with all the leading independent sports producers. It is worth £31 million a year for five years, a total of £155

In return TWI will have to fill in return I wil will nave to this
10 hours a day of sports
coverage, which represents a
sizeable leap in their output of
220 hours of original pro-

grammer last year.

The contract continues McCormack's expansion into every
area of sports management, but
BSB's stated commitment to
providing the best of British
sport for a specific British
sport for a specific British sport for a specific satisfact outline must mean that there will be a limit on the amount of events which had their origins in meeting the requirements of American tolerisies.

with more than a shout against Glenavon at Taylor's Avenue.

BADMINTON ICIALA LUREPUS: Meloyalan Open: Women's elector: Querter-Strate: Yao Fen (China) bt H Troke (GB), 11-0, 11-2. BASKETBALL

MEN'S CHAMPIONS CLUBS' CUP; Questioned, first for Barotions 97, Aris Salonia, (Qr) 81; Scavolini Pesaro (tr) 88, Yugopiselka (Yug) 75; Nestus den Boech pleth) 83, CSKA MOSOW (USSR) 80.
WOREN'S CHAMPIONS CLUBS' CUP; Senifical, second leg: Astanza Mirando (14) 75, Yysoka Skoly Prague (Cz) 76; Primigi Vicenza (ti) 64, Dynamo Novosthirak (USSR) 50. FOOTBALL

CAPTRAL LEAGUE: Exhibit 2, Westones 2, Wolvegham 0, Barnet 2, Wolvegham 0, Barnet 2, Texturel LEAGUE Abbarre 1, Nantes D: Life Frecheck LEAGUE Abbarre 1, Nantes D: Life Frecheck 2, Laris 1; St Eiberne 1, Level 0; Systeburg 1, Marine Tacing 1; Touton 1, Systeburg 1, Marine Tacing 1; Touton 1, Leading Bordseur D: Toutous 4, Cannes 1, Leading positions: 1, Austral 2, Digged 23, Adjust 2, Parts Salm German, 23, 47; 3, Monaco, 23, 40.

\$CONOLS COUNTY NATCHER: Hertfordshire 0, Independent Schools 2; Surrey 2, Independent Schools 2; Surrey 3; Independent Schools 3; Ind

KAPALIJA, Harelit Kirin Cap world champlocation: Second round: Japan bt Australia
and New Zeitland, 7-5. Scores Lispannes
and New Zeitland, 7-5. Scores Lispannes
and Mestan drew with O Merrin, 72-72. Y
being the Matano drew with O Merrin, 72-72. Y
construction of Perry, 71, 73, N Serteman bt 2
2008. 74, 75. M Kuramoto II I Baltar-Fisch,
67, 71; I Adde the R Davis. 70-72. United States
by Eastpan, 10-2. Scores (MS names first);
68, 71; I Adde the R Carves, 70-72. United States
by Carve with 2 Resident, 68, 68; J Sinchet
Carve with A Fortstrand, 68, 69; C Strengt bt M
Addustand, 68, 78, Pestiloner; United States,
20pts; 2, Europa, 11; 3, Japan, 10; 4, Australia
and New Zeeland, 7.

ICE HOCKEY INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Finland 3,

RACKETS RACKETS

CUEEN'S CLUB: Public Sciencie sevilurating (company) Capit: Princip sevent in Hurris (herrow) bit of Frankin-Ademic (Panter) 14-17, 15-6, 15-6; J Courtsold (Charterfrouse) bit A Hardicie (Maharen), 15-12, 6-15; 18-10; J Norman (Bon) bit N Peel-Chas (Minchester), 15-2, 15-7; seclades Westlaw Cap (Lince) bit T Bristowe (Charterfrouse), 18-1, 15-9; T Termen (Westlangbor) bit Hambers (Ching) bit T Bristowe (Charterfrouse), 18-1, 15-9; T Termen (Westlangbor) bit Hambers (Ching) bit T Bristowe (Charterfrouse); 18-1, 18-6; C Damby (Harrow) bit J Neimes (Ching), 15-7, 15-7, Jan Dear Cap (Linder-15); Their rewest T Stevent-Liberty (Marborough) bit W Samey-Coolean (Westlangbor), 15-8, 15-13; M Dearson (Ching) bit C Westlands (Marborough), 15-6, 16-13; R Take (Marborough), 15-6, 16-6; S Beerroft (Westlangborn) bit M Husberd (Maborough), 15-3, 15-6; N Harl (Windroster) bit O Saunders (Winchester), 15-12, 15-0.

RUGBY UNION SCHOOLS MATCHES: Welington and Radley 21, Shore and Cranbrook (Sydney) 14; Allisatows 12, Reeds C: Truro 12, St Bess, Combris O. Commell Under-14 Cup: Finel: Truro 16, Laurosecon O. Under-13 Cup: Finel: Truron 36, Listaneri O. County Under-16 analists Yorkshire 37, Cumbris 6.

BOCA RATON, Forder Sumbles Cup junior Soys tester Sourcement: Quarter-fash: Frence bt Brief, 2-1; Esseder bt West Qurtashy, BEACH, Rodder Continents Cup junior gist team tournement: Soyiet Union bt Beach, 3-0; Union State bt France, 2-1.

Rangers find it tough at the top

By Roddy Forsyth

ager at Aberdeen he once ob-served that real luck in the premier division title race consisted of freedom from the debilitating effect of injuries.

Graeme Souness, in particular, understands the truth of that

afternoon having sustained their long-standing position as league leaders beyond the halfway belief which is not out of place mark of the season but well at this time of year, Ferguson aware that all of their principal

having a good run could come out of the pack and surprise everyone," he said. Umted will do well to start their run today.

While it is true that many of the leading teams have been floundering in recent weeks,

for seven weeks.
"Our goalkeeper has a virus which he can't seem to shake off and that's another worrying one, so there is no relief for us unless you count the fact that McCoist played in a reserve match during the week.

"But he still feels he bas a problem and with a hamstring you have to be very careful not you have to be very careful not to push it too quickly, so things areo't too bright in that direction. As far as my own leg injury goes, I have never managed to get anywhere near real fitness since an operation on the calf muscle two years ago.

"In the past few weeks I've done everything I've been told by the experts and this is the best I have felt since the operation.
At my stage of life I should hardly be in contention as a player here, because there are many more effective players on the staff, but if the injury difficulties keep up like this, I'll have to consider myself if I'm fit

enough".

Even if Souness were able to operate at the peak of his present capabilities, the Rangers manager is only too aware that his talents have never extended to prolific goalscoring and it has been been been as a cartinate of the control of the cartinate o been the absence of a cutting edge to the Ibrox team's customary midfield dominance which has seen their lead steadily whittled since October.

As they approach the critical festive period without McCoist, it is hard to imagine who will provide the missing offensive power. McCoist will travel to the Lilleshall rehabilitation centre pext week in an attempt to discover whether he can be to discover whether he can be ready for the Rangers-Celtic

former Liverpool and Wales player, John Toshack.

Hearts yesterday pulled off the most surprising signing of the season by bringing Peter McCloy, the former Scotland goalkeeper, out of retirement at the age of 42. by Hearts last week.

Today it is Celtic's turn to travel to Dundee United for a match which will have signifion Hearts' next European trip in any case but I didn't think I of the group challenging Ranghome draw with Aberdeen last

Nevertheless, they feel that their momentum is sound and Championships. The event be staged in Stockholm, Gothen-burg, Norkopping and Malmo. Tayside this season, United Tayside this season, United having woo both meetings of the sides at Tannadice. The Ceitic manager, Billy McNeill, will not settle his starting line-up until close to kick-off but Grant and Walker may resume first- team employment.

Aberdeen, still without their captain, Miller, will meet an uochanged St Mirreo at Pittodric while Heart of Midlothisp, minus their suspended Galloway, are at home to the hottom eluh, Hamilton Academical.

Molineux attraction

SHERPA VAN TROPHY: First round proper during kindham ascidors Burnley v Crewe; Scarbonough v York; Grimsby v Group seven runners-up; Group four winners v Group one funner-up; Trammers v Wigner; Group seven winners v Darlington; Blackpool v Rotherham, Southern section: Group seven winners v Gillingham; Group how winners v Herstorf; Brentford v Notts County; Group six winners v Group ber runners-up; Group live winners v Group six runners-up; Group five winners v Group six runners-up; Group five winners v Bristol City; Chesterfield v Group three runners-up; Grames to be played during the week beginning January 16.

GYMNASTICS Focus on stars who did not

reach Seoul The 11-nation Kraft Intertoday and tomorrow provides an opportunity to observe world-class gymnasts who were unable to perform at the Olympic Games in Seoul (Peter Aykroyd

writes). Fang Min, who retired from the Chinese Olympic squad through injury, will be on hand to execute, in the floor exercise, his unique double straight-back somersunit with full double

Fang is favourite for the men's all-round title ahead of Marian Penev, the Bulgarian No. 3, who also was absent from Sconl, and Kanamoto Makoto, Japan's horizontal bar champion and hope for future glory.
The Soviet Union is fielding

Gennadi Zadarochny, a new member of the national squad, whose performance will be watched with interest. Britain's entries are the competent James May and David Cox. Oksana Omelyanchik, the former Soviet women's world champion, returns to London after injury and loss of form had relegated her to a reserve role at Sessi.



EQUESTRIANISM

Although John Whitaker has richer targets in mind this week yesterday's Cognac Courvoisier Power and Speed competitioo at

Power and Speed competition at the Olympia show jumping championship — in which he relegated the West German Olympic team gold medal winner, Dirk Hafemeister, on Orchidee, to second place — gave him a rewarding first win.

The Argentinian-bred Next San Salvador, on which Whitaker won the class, has won more than £80,000 in the six years Whitaker has been riding years Whitaker has been riding him. Recently, however, he has tended to anticipate turns.

arena — as he proved with two good wins in Bordeaux a fortnight ago. Since then he has been rested and yesterday, again in a bigger arena than Wembley, he was back to his old self turning neatly over the speed section of the course and jump-

IN BRIEF

Cammish aims

for double

Ian Cammish, Britain's all-rounder cycling champion re-turns to racing today for the first time since winning his eighth national title 11 weeks ago. He

aims to repeat last year's pre-Christmas double when he won the Chesterfield Spire 10 miles

trial and, the next day, tri-umphed in the Crest CC 25

miles event near Quendon

ing the power section with customary ease. They finished three quarters of a second ahead of the runners-up to claim the

of the runners-up to claim the £600 first prize.
That is comparatively small fry for Whitaker these days — he has won more than £50,000 on Next Milton in the last two months alone. Tonight, after competing in today's Volvo World Cup qualifier on Next Milton he flies to the Grenoble Show in France to ride Next Show in France to ride Next Gammon in the Grand Prix and returns to Olympia on Monday to compete in the Crosse and Blackwell Grand Prix.

midair and landed on a back bar," Whitaker said yesterday.
He operates better in a larger arena — as he proved with two career. Speight is an enterprising young man. At 17 he has a plant hire company at Grimsby and manages to fit his riding career in with his business one—his father mid the process one—his father paid the wages yesterday. The man who makes it all

possible for Speight is Lionel Dunning, a former top inter-national show jumper, who has known Speight since he was "as round as he was high".

Alan Ball had built a true rider's course — "It was no problem you just had to get it right," Dunning said. In fact very few of them did: only four went clear in the first round. In the jump-off Speight was last to go and with the first three all making mistakes needed only a clear round to win. Speight's clear round to win. Speight's aim is to be selected for next year's Junior European show umping team.

RESULTS: Cognec Courvolator Power speed: 1, Next San Sahador (J Whitaker), 0 in 24.37 sec; 2, Orchidee (D Hafemeister, WG), 0 in 25.07. Vesachall Young Show Jumper of the Future Award: 1, Kosher (A Speight, 0 in 37.69; 2, Select (J Brewitt), 8 in 30.74; 3, Senator Roscoe's Reality (M Lucas), 12 in 30.42. Crones and Blackwell Turkey States: 1, Next Flarapath (M Whitaker), 0 in 30.69; 3, Queentowsy Countryman (D Broome), 0 in 31.23.

RUGBY UNION Selectors'

chance to assess MacNeill

The Ireland team to meet Italy in Duhlin on December 31, to be announced tomorrow, is expected to vary little, if at all, from that playing the Combined Provinces in the final trial at Lansdowne Road this afternoon. That team is, with one exception, the one which ran in eight tries against Western Sa-moa towards the end of

The exception is Irwin, the Ulster captain, who is in the centre, allowing Kiernan to move to full back for Danaher.

In recent years the practice of replacing players at the interval or moving some from one side to the other has fallen out of favour. There is, however, a school of thought that it might be no bad thing to try these testics again. tactics again. Whether it will happen this afternoon is a moot point. But there must be some desire to see

what shape Hugo MacNeill is in after his six-mooths spell in the Uoited States on husiness. Nothing will be learned if he stays oo the beach. There is a late change in the Combined Provinces team with Keyes, the Constitution and Munster stand-off half taking over from Russell (Instonians),

who has toosilitis. Witch Has (Octamins,
IRELAND XV: M Kleman (Dolphin);
Saxton (Lanadowne), 2 Media (Londor Irish), O Irwin (Instonians), K Crosses (Instonians); P Deam (St Mary's College), F Aberne (Lensdowns); T Clency (Lanadowne), S Sasith (Sallymans), J Media (Sanadowne), S Sasith (Sallymans), J Media (Sanadowne), S Sasith (Sallymans), J Media (Sanadowne), S Sasith (Sallymans), J Francis (London Irish), D Media (Majone), N Media (Majone

Romania are in demand

By David Hands

Romania, who recorded their first away win over a Five Nations championship country when they beat Wales last week, may find themselves playing two more home unions next year. In addition to their sched-uled match with England in Bucharest, on May 13, Scotland have suggested they visit Edin-

Under the existing agreement, Romania are due to play Scot-land in 1990, the two countries having met in 1986 in Bucharest when Scotland won 33-18, and during the World Cup in 1987 when Scotland won 55-28. But the Scottish Rugby Union have written suggesting the fixture be advanced 12 mooths, to December 2, and are waiting for Romania's reaction.

in a four-cornered negotiation for a tour in 1990 by Argentina, with either England or Ireland sharing the visit; were Romania to agree to play next year, that would offer a valuable en-counter for the Scots, at a time when Wales and Ireland have games against New Zealand scheduled and England are seeking a game against Fiji.

SWIMMING

Dautsch sneaks past Robins

It is nine below zero outside, but

inside the Etobicoke Olympium competition began to warm up in the first session of finals in the first meeting of the World Cap.
Grant Robins pulled himself
oot of the water after his 200 metres backstroke final muttering bitterly about being beaten after leading for 199 metres, only to be touched out by Tamas Dautsch, a consolation finalist in Seoul.

Cammish, who says he is fitter than at the same time last Dautsch will go down in year, expects the main oppo-sition to come from Martin Pyne and Gary Dighton. history as the first winner of a World Cup final, having taken the bonours in the 50 metres the honours in the 50 metres backstroke earlier in the evening, but it is his young team mate, Krisztina Egerszegi, who is the star of the show so far. The waif-like Olympic champion has hardly been back in training since Seoul, because of illness, yet was still an easy winner of her gold medal event, the 200 metres backstroke. **Tennis sponsor** The Bank of Scotland is to sponsor the Scottish grasscourt tennis championships for a further two years at a cost of £200,000.

metres backstroke.

Downhill change The first of the two women's World Cup downhill races, in Altenmarkt, Austria, which was postponed on Wednesday, will be transferred to Grindelwald, Switzerland, during the January 12 to 15 meeting.

Dope reprimand Helsinki (AP) - Mikael Sundstrom, of Finland, has been given a serious reprimand by the International Doping Com-mittee in the first doping case in motor rally sports.

All steered up Martin and Graham Bell, the downhill skiers, and the rest of Britain's 20-strong alpine team have been given the use of five vehicles by Fiat Auto (UK) for the European and World Cup race season which ends in April

Petranoff ban Covina (AP) - The Athletics Congress has suspended seven more athletes including Tom Petranoff, the javelin thrower, and Milan Stewart, a burdler, for competing in South Africa earlier this year.

Shouldering on Harold "Dickie" Bird, the Test Harold "Dickie" Bird, the Test cricket umpire, has been given the cold shoulder — by daily signing sessions of his book From the Pavilion End. The painful price was a visit to the doctor who diagnosed his problem as a "frozen shoulder". Bird is having physiotherapy to relieve the pain.

One of the English team at the ual medal or her record, was meeting, Joanne Deakins, drew immediate heoefit from

competing against Egerszegi, the Gloucester schoolgirl's 2:15.61 for fourth place representing an improvement of more than 2.5sec oo her best time when she ASA short-course champion. also improved as she won the consolation final of the 200 metres breaststroke and got inside 2:34 for the first time.

that event where one of the best races of the night took place. It has not been a good year for Canadian sport, so there were audible sighs of relief when Allison Higson managed to draw away from Suki

Brownsdon at the halfway turn of the 200 metres breaststroke final. Higson, the former world record-holder who returned from Seoul without an individ-

former Commonwealth mark by the in-form British woman.

by the in-form British woman.

RESULTS (British unless stated): MeacFreestyle: 200ar: 1, A Homertz (Swe), 1min 46.02ac; 2, T Wenner (Swe), 1min 46.02ac; 2, T Wenner (Swe), 146.01; 3, 0 Vandermoulen (Gan), 146.63, a final: 1, P Howe, 15-1.79, Beckstroke: 50ar: 1, P Howe, 15-1.79, Beckstroke: 50ar: 1, T Daufsch (Hun), 25.94; 2, N Hakansson (Swe), 27.21; 3, G Robins, 27.41, 200m; 1, Daufsch, 242.79; 2, Robins, 2403.01; 3, 2 Lutz (Can), 204.67, Breeastsroke: 200ar: 1, 1 Kraisinger (WG), 211.55b; 2, J Cleveland (Can), 215.80; 3, T Debnar (Hun), 2-17.78, B final: 6, J Parrack, 226.17 (224.04 hearts), Individual medicy: 10tax: 1, A Peterson (Swe), 57.26; 2, J Eldman (Swe), 57.39; 3, Janglang Shen (Chine), 57.46, Women: Freestyle: 200ar: 1, J Kerr (Can), 1.59.48; 2, E Nyberg (Swe), 2-00.98; 3, N Lowinic (Can), 2-15.50; 4, J Dealtrs, 2-15.51, Breaststroke: 200ar: 1, A Hagnon (Can), 2-27.43; 2, 2 Brownsdon, 2-28.87; 3, A Nistro (ti), 2-30.99, 2 finel: 1, 0 Tubby, 2-33.99, Individual medicy: 100m; 1, Brownsdon, 1.30.41; 2, N Sweetnam (Can), 140.29; 3, N I Lowiner (Can), 20.49. 233.99. Individual mediey: 100m: 1, Brownsdon, 1:03.41; 2, N Swetnam (Can), 1:04.28; 3, N Lowfinic (Can), 1:05.78.6; K Pickering, 1:07.13.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Wigan cast problems aside for semi-final tie

By Keith Macklin

While Bradford Northern bemoan the three-match suspen-sion which costs Brendan Hill, at Burnden Park, Bolton next sion which costs brendan run, their front row forward, his place in today's John Player Special Trophy semi-final at Headingley, the Wigan coach, Graham Lowe, maintains a lower profile on a more difficult situation for the Central Bark situation for the Central Park

Hill's absence takes some of the power out of Northern's pack, but Lowe, if he wished to, could point in the continuing suspension of Bell, the illness which has sent Edwards oo a Spanish holiday, and injuries to several internationals, including Gregory, who faces a late fitness test. Lowe shrugs his shoulders and says: "We have to get on with it and field our best possible side."

It may be that the single loss of Hill may affect Bradford more than the several absentees will trouble Wigan. The Lancashire side has a large pool of off. Steve Roach, of Warrington, talent, with one of the deputies, has been suspended for three preston, the winger, running in tries in such a spectacular Wakefield, for one.

greatly missed. Wigan should thus edge their

month in this, their fourth successive semi-final. Northern have not reached the semi-final stage of this competition since they woo the trophy back to 1980, and their confidence cannot have been helped by poor league performances including a thrashing at Salford last Sunday. Their fierce tacking enabled them to beat Castleford in an

earlier round, and they will certainly run Wigan close. lo the first division matches tomorrow Castleford put their unbeaten record on the line at Warrington, while Widnes and Leeds meet at Naughtoo Park watching for any slip by the leaders.

Graeme Phillips, Workington Town, has been banned for four matches by the

Unexpected points bonus for Schneider

Altenmarkt, Austria - Vreni Schneider yesterday won the first World Cup women's slalom of the seasoo and subsequently discovered it entitled her to a 25 points boaus (Iain Macleod

The Swiss Olympic champion completed two runs of a demanding course io a time of lmin 35.08sec, with Katjusa Pusnik, of Yugoslavia, and Tamara McKinney, of the United States, second and third respectively.
Schneider also gained victory

in the combination event.

RESULTS: 1. V Schneider (Switz), 1 min 35.08sec; 2, K Puenik (Yug), 1:35.9; 3, T McCinney (US), 1:35.8; 4, M Malerhoter (Austria), 1:35.86; 5, P Chauvet (Fr), 1:36.03; 6, M Svet (Yug), 1:36.05; 7, B Fernandez Ochoe (Sp), 1:36.47; 8, U Maler (Austria), 1:36.59; 9, A Gerach (WG), 1:36.9; 10, C Nisson (Swe), 1:36.81; 11 equal, H Voeiker (US) and C Strobl (Austria), 1:36.9; 13, C Lunchaeck (Swe), 1:37.33; 14, V Særie (Yug), 1:37.39; 15, P Krorberger (Austria), 1:37.78. Laeding World Cup standinger 1, Schneider, 25.04s; 2, Maler, 20; 3, P Krorberger (Austria), 1:37.78. Leading World Cup standinger 1, Schneider, 25.05; 2, Maler, 20; 3, P Krorberger (Austria), 1:37.78. Leading World Cup standinger 1, Schneider, 25.05; 2, K Puenik (Yug), 20; 3, McKinney, 15, Laeding Nationa Cup standinger, 1, Austria, 527pts; 2, Switzerland, 374; 3, West Germany, 253. in the combination event,

London are in pole position to take divisional trophy

The Rugby Football Union has been somewhat coy this week about revealing to which venue the Toshiba divisional trophy will be taken today but I imagine they will risk the short trip to Imber Court on the basis that London, with their favourable points margin, will win the championship by beating the

All four divisions have won one and lost one, but London's decisive 36-4 victory last weekend over last season's champions, the North, has put them in pole position ahead of the South and South-West, who meet the North at Orrell today. Technically London's task should be the easier, since the Midlands have the worst points

It has been a fascinating and unexpected championship, not always full of good rugby but exposing the strengths and, perhaps more often, the sses, of certain players. It also brought from David Robinson, the North coach, the wistful but apt comment that he envied London.

Not, I dare say, the place itself but the ability of Richard Best, his opposite number, to bring his divisional players together on Mondays and Wednesdays before each game. "I do feel that the North only had them together once."

3.0 unless stated

Luton v A Villa ..

Esher v Runcom Kudderminster v Northwich Newport v Telford Statford v Bernet

Sutton Utd v Yeavil .

Beazer Homes League

Burton v Merthyr
Cambridge Crty v Dorchester
Corby v Alvechurch
Dartford v Moor Green

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Midland di-

BEAZER KOMES LEAGUE: Midlend di-vision: Atherstone v Forest Green; Bhogmorth v Rushiden; Coventry Sporting v Ashtree Highfield, Dudley v Bisson; Groucester v Banbury; Halestowen v Hednestord; King's Lynn v Siston Cold-held; Mee Oak v Stourbridge; Weiling-borough v Grantham; Wilsenhall v Tamworth; Southern division; Beldock v Winney, Burham v Folkestone; Chelma-ford v Andover; Ertin and Belvoders v Gravesend and Northield; Hastings v Trowthodge; Seisbury v Dunslable; Sheppey v Russip, Thanet v Tonbridge.

Smephey v Pussey, Thather v Tonbridge.
OVENDEN PAPERS COMBINATION (2.0):
Reading v Fulham: Southampton v
Wimshedon; Wattord v Arsenat (3.0).
SampinOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ards v
Glentorar; Ballymena v Lame; Carrick v
Glentovon; Chusaders v Distilleny; Linfield v
Culerame; Newry v Cliftonville; Portadown
v Bangor.

Colerame; Newry v Cittorwille; Portadown v Bangor.

Vallythall-OPEL LEAGUE: Premier division: Bognor v Behop's Stortfort; Bromley v Wokingher; Carshaton v Stough; Dagenham v Leytonstons/librot; Famborough v Mariow; Haydon v Harrow; Hendon v Benung; Leyton-Wingste v Grays; St Albars v Kingstoriam; Tooling and Michael v Cydon; Windsor and Eton v Dawlen. Pindt division: Basingstoka v Wembley; Bracknell v Welding; Rampton v Chesham; Herbir v Southweck; Kingstory v Basildon; Leetherheid v Netton and Herstein; Leves v Boreham Wood; Stantes v Metropolizar Police; Wivenhoe v Collier Row; Worthing v Unbindge, Second division north; Billencey v Wen; Herbort v Vaschall Motors; Heybridge v Hernel Hempstead; Royston v Rainham; Stevenage Boough v Lacthworth CC; Tring v Aveley; Woherton v Homerunch, Second division assets; Dordong v Winyalaste; Eastsoumé Linited v Yeading; Honsham v Newbury;

Marcantear United V Personnel Street disease v Fetraeri.
SKOL NORTHERN LEAGUE First division: Bilingham Town v Blyth (2.0); Chessar-le-Sares v North Shields; Crock v Brandon, Ferrytsi v Bilingham Synthone; Gussorough v Durham; Sestiam Hed Star v Spection; Shields v Easingtant Sommymoor v Greek (2.15); Tow Law v South Bank (1.45); Whithy v Newcastle

Gosport v Dover Leicester Utd v Crawley Waterlooville v Redditch

Barclays League

GM Vauxhali Conference

night for word that Thompson, the Harlequins stand-off half, had recovered from bruised ribs. Should be withdraw, Lozowski, the Wasps centre, will replace him with Sutton (Cambridge Univer-

sity) coming onto the bench.

The understanding between Thompson and his centres is important to London: "He creates a lot of space for Salmon and Clough," Best said, "and I can't remember seeing Jamie Salmon control a match as much as he did last week. We need to keep it fluid against the Midlands because if we try to set things up, they will kill it."

That, perhaps, is a little unkind to the Midlands whose selections this season have been based on availability rather than anything else and who now have a focal point in Richards, the Leicester No. 8, whose shoulder has improved and who, in retrospect, may benefit long term from a month's enforced rest.

It will be good news for the selectors who, on Monday, are due to announce England's training party for Portugal

They must look at all four divisions for a full back on the assumption that Webb, of Bristol, currently on crutches after the removal of half a cartilage, may not have recovered full fitness by the time suffer as far as training is ered full fitness by the time concerned," he said. "I've England's first international, nly had them together once." against Scotland on February London were waiting last 4, comes round. So Buzza's

confrontation with Lowther assumes great prominence, as does the matching of Hill with Morris at scrum half.

Morris offers, potentially, the greater dimension but he may find himself playing be-hind a beaten pack. If the South-West use the ball more intelligently than they did at Beeston last week they could add further to the North's embarrassment but they will have to win by several lengths to deprive London — should they wind up victors half-anhour later - of the

At Imber Court

At Imber Court
LONDON DIVISION (Herisquins unless
stated; 3 Threeher; 3 Smith (Herps), 7
Clough (Waspe), J Salsson, M Balley
(Vaspe); 3 Threeher; 3 Smith (Herps), 7
Clough (Waspe), J Salsson, M Balley
(Vaspe); 4 Thouspeon, 5 Balley (Vaspe), 8
Stimmer, N Edwards, P Actions, 0 Popier
(Vaspe, Ceptain), 4 Ellison (Waspe), 10
Waspe, Ceptain), 4 Ellison (Waspe), 10
MILLAND DIVISION (Notingham unless
stated; 9 Hodge (Laicester), E Erans
(Laicester), P Dodge (Laicester), 11
Heritey, 8 Hackney; L Commonth,
(Laicester), 18 Reid (Laicester), 18 Bayfleed
(Metropolitan Police), 6 Rees, 2 Stichards
(Laicester), 18 Reid (Laicester), 18 Bayfleed
(Metropolitan Police), 6 Rees, 2 Stichards
(Laicester), 18

MORTH DIVISION: M. Lowther (Bale); T. Underwood (Lelcester); W. Carling (Hartequins), B. Barley (Waterfield); R. Underwood (Lelcester); D. Peers (Selle), O. Blories (Liverpool S. Heisens); M. Whitcombe (Sale), N. Hitchin (Orroll), D. Southern (Orrell), S. Hodgeon (Vain of Lune), W. Dooley Preston Grasshoopers), R. Kiemites (Orrell), P. Wintschottes (Herioteche, Carlet), P. Wintschottes (Herioteche), P. Mintschottes (Heriot

SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST DIVISION (Beth unless stated): A Buzza (Cambridge University): A Swift, R Knibba (Bristof), J Guscott, A Lumeder; S Barnes (captan), R Hill; Is Preedy (Gloucester), A Dure (Gloucester), J Hedi, J Morrison, H Redmen, A Robinson, M Teegue (Gloucester), Hedman, R Robinson, Referenc R Cutterston (London).

Milne brothers duel at prop

After their easier than expected will again be under close scru-48-12 victory over Glasgow last Saturday, Edinburgh can expect tiny. Last week, although outshone by Chalmers, he did show useful skills, particularly iste oo to be tested much more rig-orously by the Anglo-Scots, who meet the defending McEwans inter-district champions at in the game. He has of course been spared another direct comparison because of Wyllie's move to the centre following the seven day ban imposed by the SRU oo Scott Hastings.

Myreside today,
Edinburgh have made a late change in their side, bringing in the former North and Midlands player David Leckie at No. 8 What will improve Cramb's confidence is having his regular district and Scotland B centre and switching Kevin Rafferty to flanker because of slight injuries Ruari Maclean back after recovering from injury. This will allow the Anglos captain, Lindto both Finlay and Jim Calder. one of whom will play after both twins have taken last minute say Renwick, to revert to the wing position from which he can fitness tests.

Edinburgh's powerful pack, which is based round their pursue his claim for national

formidable front row, is unlikely to be seriously weakened. Today David Milne, playing his second game for the Anglo-Scots, will prop against his brother, Iain, while on the other side the young London Scottish player. The other district match today takes place at Kilmarnock where Glasgow meet North and Midlands, who will be mindful that it is almost four years to the day defeated Glagow 14-13. Paul Burnell, faces a stern test from David Sole. Where Edioburgh will be under more pressure than last week is in the lineout in which Gray and Cronin can be expected to win a good supply of ball for the

Just how well they use it will depend on their Scotland standoff half, Richard Cramb, who drawn and his place on the wing goes to his Edinburgh Univer-sity colleague, Chris Simmers.

GLASGOW: D Barrett (West of Soc M Dussen (West of Scotland), C MeGarlie (Ayr), S McAsian (Sinsgow Acad), D Spirit (Ayr), R Stewart (Kilmerrotch), E McCordindele (Giasgow Hogh Kohrinside); J Graham, K McKanzie, B Hobertson. (Stirling County), 5 Marie (Glasgow

This win has been followed by a steady run of defeats for them but their showing against Australia and the Anglo-Scots, together with the dented confidence of Glasgow, could see an end to that barren run.

Bedinburgh have made a late change in their under-21 side to meet the Anglo-Scots under-21s at Myreside prior to the main match. Chris Newton has with-

EDIABLITATH: S Douglas (Boroughmair); P Stevan (Heriot's), S Linean (Boroughmair, D Wyllie (Stewart's-Med-ville), M Debuski, (Boroughmair); J Paton (Edinburgh Acad), J Scott (Stewart's-Melville); U Sole (Edinburgh Acad), K Manse, I Mins (Hartot's), J Hichseduca (Edinburgh Acad), J Price (Boroughmair), K Raffary (Heriot's), U Leckie (Edinburgh Acad), A N Other.

CRICKET: THE MCG IS A FAMOUS YET DAUNTING STAGE FOR THE WOMEN'S WORLD CUP FINAL

Australia are by no means invincible

From John Woodcock Melbourne

For the women cricketers of England and Australia to be playing the final of their World Cup on the Melbourse Cricket Ground tomorrow, in a heat wave if the forecasters have got it right, is a little like asking their golfing counterparts to drive off the back tee in a gale at

Boyal Birkdale.

It will be a thrill for them, of course, to see their names in lights, and to be using the very pitch on which Australia met West Indies on Thursday, but there are other awaller, just as

West Indies on Thirsday, but there are other smaller, just as well appointed grounds, where they would have been less likely to feel dwarfed.

With a side that has been together for same time now, and won the competition when it was played last in New Zealand in 1982, Australia are the forcewises. But England heat 1982, Australia are the favourites. But England beat Australia last Sunday, in one of the two qualifying games they played against them, so they have it in them to win. They have had a lovely, jolly time, and that victory over Australia got them into the final.

Of the other sides, the

into the final.

Of the other sides, the Netherlands and their attendant creche, came to learn, and they like to think their form against Australia proves that they have the first time the sides met, on November 29, the scores were 204 for 1 periods 204 by fact.

November 29, the scores were 284 for 1 against 29; by last Wednesday the gap had closed to 258 for 4 against 85.

Ireland are disappointed not to have won more than their two matches against the Dutch, and although New Zealand will expect to heat Ireland in the playoff for the third place today they will feel that they, and not England, should be playing Australia tomorrow. The two matches between England and New Zealand were shared and there is little to choose between

Watching a women's match one comes across more batsman going down the pitch, because the bowling is flighted, than in the whole of an English first-class season. I am not sure they make the most of it when they get there, in that, having turned something into a half volley, they tend to push rather than drive it, but it is good to see.

If we say that Malcolm Marshall at his fastest bowls at 100 miles an hour, the fastest woman

miles an bour, the fastest won might, I suppose, get up to 40 miles an hour. That is not intended gratuitously at all, but simply as a pointer. A hard ball travelling at 40 miles an hour can seem quite fast enough anyway, and there is nothing to stop it swinging at that speed. The type of game the women play is, inevitably, dictated, to a

Park Avenue tour report

Yorkshire's seven-man manage-

received, a spokesman said, which would be passed on.



large extent, by their strength; but the keenness with which they play it, and the vigous with which they appeal, is certainly

Just as Laura Davies could cope with the carries at Birkdale, one girl who will not seem out of place on the MCG tomorrow is Janette Brittin, not became she is hig and strong — she is, in fact, fragrant, as they say in the courts — but became she is, if ever I saw one, a natural games player. Some people are born to play games, others, in definice of nature, are deter-

named to do so. Jasette is a Deals Compton.

Already this winter she has scored a goal for England, mships, It was indoor at Crystal Palace, but the games were worth a fall cap. At her best

perhaps it should be a betswoman, as there is, maybe ever has been, and she is a veritable Derek Randall is the

Now 29, it all began when she Now 29, it all began when she was 11 and her grandparents took her in a fete in Morden Park. There was a strange contraption there that might have been a wooden hammock. It was one of those old slip-catching cradles (where have they gone I wonder?), and she kept going back to it and finding that she was a natural with a that she was a natural with a

So her father, who had played for Survey Colts with John Edrich and Geoff Arnold, found a women's cricket club for her, called Tadkias, and she played with the boys at Fleetwood Comprehensive, and now she

Edghaston and Worcester and Perth and New Plymouth, and

off India's spinners at New Delhi — with a method which owes more to instinct and to watching men play than to any concentrated coaching. Seeing Graham Gooch with his bat held at the horizontal, she tried it herself. But she has

dispensed with that now. She has a bat of 21b 2oz, as distinct from something disastrously beavier, which is the average for the Women's World Cup. Others pick up Janette's bat and think it is like a feather, little knowing that it is the weight which Gary Sobers used.

If, before long, there is a turning back towards lighter bats, which make stroke-play easier, except for a colossus, Miss Brittin and Gray-Nicolls

England's rehearsal completed at a canter

spark

an tenew

From Carol Salmon Melbourne

completed the preliminaries before meeting Australia in the final of the Shell Becentenoial World Cup by thrashing the Netherlands by 180 runs here

Hodges and Watson put together their second century pening partnership of the tournament and were not separated until they had added 163 in 133 minutes. Hodges then fell when io sight of the tournament's fifth century, mis-timing a pull shot.

It has to be said, however, that It has to be said, nowever, that these were easy runs for England as the Dutch put up a dismal performance in the field. England's eventual 278 for three was 19 runs short of the World Cup record, established by New nents earlier in the tournament.

Wheo they batted, the Netherlands quickly made it clear that their sole ambition was to bat out the whole 60 overs, which they eventually succeeded in doing for only the second time in eight attempts. It was oot a good dress

rehearsal for tomorrow's final, however, for England conceded 29 wides, oine of these by their strike bowler. Chamberlain, who is still struggling to make an Australia completed a more impressive last outlog, bearing Ireland by 10 wickets with

Reeler taking her average to 64.83 by scoring an unbeaten 63 from 85 deliveries.
ENGLAND
C A Hodges b van ber
W A Watson c Vernout b Vet
J A Bettin run out

J M Chembertein, P A Lovell, C J Berrs. S J Kitson, †L Nye, G A Smith did not bet. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-163, 2-174, 3-243. BOWn.ING: Duller 12-1-39-0; Loman 12-1-48-0; van Lier 12-1-47-1; Veltmen 8-0-42-1; Grevers 9-0-47-0; Vernout 5-0-36-0; School 2-0-13-0.

Verrout & Kitson ----

L Vermout b Kitson

I Payne b Smith
I School c Powell b Chembertan
I Dutter Lun out
I Dutter run out
Vesenhagen b Lovel
C H Graver's c Watson b Barrs
E Vetramn not out
D Loman not out
Extras (b 4, lb 1, w 29)

TOTAL IS STORY OF THE STREET OF THE STREET OF WICKETS: 1-16, 2-19, 3-22, 4-31, 5-85, 6-89, 7-86, 8-86, 9-88.

BOWLING: Chamberlain 8-1-15-1: Aspinal 8-5-10-0; Smith 11-6-19-1: Hodges 12-7-17-1; Kitson 6-2-7-1; Barrs 7-2-10-1; Lovell 10-5-15-3.

Unspirate: E Jackson and K Knott,

Other Match: Ireland 68 in 56.2 overs (L. Fuliston 4-21) lost to Australia 89-0 in 21,4

Hobart poised for Test match call-up

From John Woodcock ment team will report back to
the general committee next Bellerive Oval in Hobart, the
month after their tour of the
Park Avenue ground in the Tasmanian Cricket Associ-Bradford, last used for first-class ation, will become the 62nd cricket three years ago (Martin ground on which Test cricket Bradford, last used for first-class cricket three years ago (Martin Searby writes).

They held talks with the Friends of Park Avenue, a ginger group which has raised £50,000 towards restoring cricket to the famous Bradford venue. Useful information was the 1989-90 Australian season. Touring Australia at the same

lian board is keen to stage six Test matches no one, other than the matches are to be divided that, is whether Pakistan gets five and Sri Lanka one, or Pakistan four and Sri Lanka two - will not be decided until the representatives of the three countries meet during the Inter-national Cricket Conference at

ingly by Anstralia and watched by practically no one.

The last ground to be added to Jaipur, when India played Pakistan there in February 1987. Australia's most recent addition was Perth, for the match against England in 1970-71. Melbourne, in 1877, staged the first ever Test match. Sydney joined in in

Ground, which was used only twice, and the Woolloongabba, first used in 1931.

India lead the way with 16 Test grounds. Pakisian have I England and South Africa each seven, West Indies five, New Zealaod five and little Sri Lanka no fewer than four, acquired in their six and a half years as a

Test playing country. Who can name them all without cheating, other than our own Richard Streeton, who has, I think, put in a personal appearance at every single one?

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES Second division Third division

Fourth division

Doncaster v Scunthorn

Hartispool v Carlisla _ Hereford v Burnley Peterborough v Exeter ... Stockport v Lincoln

HORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE

Premier division: Amthorps Vesters v Densby: Better v Trackley; Grimethorps Welfars v Hackley; Grimethorps Welfars v Hattleid Main (2.0). Lesgue Cap: Second round (1.45); Wordbrough Bridge v Long Eaton: York RI v Poutofract Collismos: Glesshoughton Welfars v Bridlington Trintly; Melithy MW v Hellem (3.0).

(3.0).

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE (11.0):
Pirst division: Argenti v Queen's Park
Hangers: Ipswich v Mitwali West Ham v
Cembridge, Second division: Brighton v
Wimbledon; Bristol Rovers v Totachare;
Northempton v Swindon, Leegue Que
Third round: Charton v Portsmoun;
Gillopham v Brentindt; Nonvich v Bristol
City; Totachare v Crystal Palace.
ARTHIRS PURMIT (2015): Elect present Oct.

ARTHUR DUNN CUP: First round: Old

ARTHUR DUNN CUP: Find round: Old Brantwoods v St Gortund's, Carterfoury. Old Westingburians v Old Chigwellians. ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Pressive divisions: Old Carthusians v Lancing old Boys: Old Reptoniens v Old Marrovians; Old Selo-pians v Old Marrovians. First divisions: Old Ardiniens v Old Wychamista; Old Etonians v Old Westmansans; Old For-esians v Old Westmansans; Old For-esians v Old Westmansans; Old For-

ans v Oid Hespitalisans. PIKS AND BUCKS SEHBOR CUP: First and: Didcot v Ablingdon Town; Wantage Religit St Peter.

BASKETBALL

Bamsley v Leicester Bleckburn v Watford Blackpool v Bristol R Bolton v Chester
Bristol C v Cardff
Fultura v Preston
Huddersfield v Bury
P Vale v Reading
Sheffield Utd v Southend
Swanska v Chesterfield ournemouth v Walsall redford v Swindon

HPS LOANS LEAGUE: League Cup: Second round: Berrow v Moseley; Bletop Audidand v Rhyl; Buston v Congleton; Droyladen v Hyde; Fleetwood v Worksop; Frickley v Horwich; Gekraborough v Caernerion; Goole v Southport: Harrogate v Gateshed; Irlam v Stalyonidge; Radciffe v Gangor; Shepshed v Marine; Sutton Town v Medick; Winsford v Lancaster; Witton v South Liverpool. First division: Alimeton v Workington; Eastwood Town v Accrington Starley; Leak v Farsley; Netherfield v Curzon Astron; Newtown v Pennth; Whatley Bey v Coine Dynamosa.

Dynamoes.

PA VASE: Third round: Harrogate RA v Borrowest Victoria. (1.30): Whichiam v Dunston PB (1.30): Casett Town v Bridington Town; Emiley v Gulesley; Garforn v Aossertale; North Ferrity v Murcon: Bussion v Northiseld (1.30); Payet v Louth; Halseowen v Henror; Grasley v Ternworth; Eastwood Hanley v Pouton Victoris: Vaudali GM (Cheshire) v Hofbeach; Brigg v Boldmere St Michaels; Braintree v Firithly; Cheshunt v Bury; Barhinensted v Wileboch; Herlow v Tibury; East Thurrock v Grest Yarmouth (1.30); Burnham v Hevernit; March v Sudbury. Halisham v Darenth Heathside; Burgess Hill v Chertsey; Hungerlord v Eastbourne Town; Wick v Epsom and Ewell: Hounslow v Corinthian; Havant v Camberley; Abingdon v Thacbam (1.50); Bashley v Morelon; Paulton v Devizee; Walton v Yate; Romsey v Bridport; Tiverton v Chincentham

ABACUS WELSH LEAGUE: National di-vision (2.15): AFC Cardin v Haverford-less; Brecor v Pembroks: Briton Ferry v Maesteg: Cwmbran v Ton Pentre; Millord v Abergavenny: Portillentreith v Aberyst-wyst; Port Talbot v Berry.

GREAT WILLS LEAGUE: Premier di-vision: Bideford v Plymouth Argyle; Chard. v Frome; Clevedon v Bernstaple; Exmouth v Swange and Herston; Liskaard v Radespok: Mangotafield v Salfash; Minehead v Bristol Manor Farm; Weston-super-Mare v Dewlish.

BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Burscough v Elesanser Port and Neston; Carrier v Warnington; Flaton v Praecot Cables (2.D); Formby v Atherion LR (2.D); Knowlsey v Colsyn Bay (2.D); Leyland Motors v Gootie; St Helens v Ashton.

CAPLISHERG LEAGUE (8.0): Bracknet Tigers v Mill Livingston; Leicester City Riders v Derby; Manchester Eagles v Hernel Hernospand. Hernel Hempsteled.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Fleet division men
(s.G. 9-rengium: Bullets v Briston
Topcats; Chestrie Jets v Gezenheed
Veldings (7-30); Oldhem Cettics v Tower
Hamilets; Plymouth Raiders v Stockport
(7-50). First division woneer: Cardiff v
Ipswich (90); Crystal Police v
Stockport
(3.0); Northempton v Kingston (7-30).

SPORT ON TV

ATHLETICS: ITV 2.15-3 p.m.: Miller Lite cross-country intermetional from Cardin.

EQUESTRIANISM: BBC1 10.40-11.50 p.m.: Show jumping from the Crympia show (see elso Grandstand).

GRANDSTAND: BBC1 12.15-5 p.m.: New John Country Millerin Grand Prix reliveross from Brands Hatch. Recing: 12.50, 1.30 and 1.55 races from Accot. Siding: Mon's station championship from Kranjskei Gora, Yugoslevia. Rugby Highlights of a Berchys Leepus match. Highlights of a Barolin's League match. HOCKEY: EBC2 9:25-10.19 p.m.: Review of Great Britain's triumph at the Olympic

or Greek Brisser's transport use organics.
RMOBY SPECIAL: EDC2 5-5.55 p.m.: Highlights of Tourible Divisional Camplements: London v Midlands from Imber Court and North v South and South Vest from Orest; Schwappee Weish Cape Fourth round match: Feligical v Bridgerd. de Palace, London.

SAINT AND GREAVER: ITV 1.05-1.35

p.m. Resetts service: 4.45 p.m.

8PORTS REVIEW OF THE YEAR BECS

5.05-6.45 p.m.: Repest showing of the year's great sporting occasions.

TEMBE: C4 11.35 p.m.-12.35 a.m.: Devise Cup final: Highlights of Sweden v West Germany from Gothenberg.

B and Q Scottish League Premier division Aberdeen v St Minren Dundee Utd v Celtic ... Hourts v Har Motherwell v Dundee

First division Airdrie v Clydebank Ayr v Morton Forfar v Falkirk ... bank v Duntermana

Second division Alice v Dumberton Arbroath v E Fife

Berwick v Stenhsemuir Brechin v E Stirfing Cowdenbeeth v Stirfing Queen's Park v Albion HANDRALI.

EUROPEAN CUP WRNERS: CUP (wo-men): First round, second leg (first leg score in brackets): Manchester Urited SSS (7) Sagle Animery (Sel) (12) (Eccles Recreation Gentre, 7.0).

HOCKEY

HOCKEY

NORWICH LINGON EAST LEAGUE: Premiler division: Ford v ipswich.

NEDLANDS: Caub metches: Bingham v
Worksop; Brintons v Standard: Burton v
Tolsord and Shifhel; Cheltenham v Coventry and North Warwickshire; Drokwich v
Stratord on Avon; Egenton Park v
Astaving: GEC AE (Ruppy) v Leek;
Kiddwinnister v Streek; Rings Heath v
Brintingham Municipal; Kimos I bertin v
Brintingham Municipal; Kimos Drayton v
Wombourne: Newerk v Rolls Royce; North
Bridgiord; Nuneson v Ruppy; Padditeh v
Harborne; Roses v Grantham; Sheffeld
Bersons v Beeston; Spondon v Berton;
Stefford v Tentworth; Stoutport v
Sourmits; Whore Nordempton Seints;
Wolverhampson v Bridgingh; Wordester v
Ood Stitester.

WOMEN: Son Life West League: Premier division: Exeter v New Sarum; East Goucester v Yets and South Goucester, Swindon v Leoninster, Bournemouth v

ICE HOCKEY HERNEGEN LEAGUE Premier division: Ayr Bruins v Peterborough Preses (7.6): File Riyers v Tayside Tigers (7.46): Marrayfide Recars v Durham Wasps (5.30): Notingham Penthers v Streetham Berentiers (5.8)

LACROSSE Brime Northern League First di-vision: Creacle v Heston Mersey: Mellor v Rochster, Old Hutmelens v Sheffield; Stockport v Sale; Timperley v Old

OTHER SPORT ATHLETICS: IAC cross-country inter-national (Cardif), EQUESTRIANSIM: Olympia show. EXAMPLES FIRST CONTROL STOWN.

GYNENASTICS: Kurst insernational (Alexandra Pelece, London).

RACKETS: Public Schools singles champenship (Queen's Clab, West Kensington),

SWEMBERG: Misk in Action Grand Prix

Schurzette.

RUGBY UNION TRISH TRIAL tretand XV v Combined Provinces

time as Sri Lanka will be

TOSHIBA DIVISIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP London v Midlends (Imber Court) North v South West (Orreft, 2.30) MCEWAN'S INTER-DISTRICT

CHAMPIONSHIP Edinburgh v Anglo-Scots (Myreside,

SCHWEPPES WELSH CUP

Aberavon Outra v Aberavon (2.0) ... Aberavon v Neath (2.15) ... Abertillery v Pencoed ... Cardiff v Amman Utd Cardiff v Amman Utd
Carmarthen v Llainharan (2.0)
Cross keys v Pontypriod
Ebbw Vale v Aberaman
Felinfoel v Bridgend (2.15)
Glamorgan W v Waunartwydd
Glymneath v Maesteg (2.30)
Hirwaun v Newport (2.0)
Newbridge v Blackwood
Pontypool Utd v Llanelli (2.30)
St Peters v S Wales Pofice (2.0)
Tonyrefall v Blaina (2.0)
Vardra v Taffs Well (2.15)

CLUB MATCHES

Bath v Saracens
Birkenheed P v London Scottish
Birmingham v Manchester (2.30) ...
Blackheath v Maidstone (2.15) Blackheath v Maidstone (2.15)
Bristol v Nottingham
Broughton Park v Halliax (2.30)
Camborne v St Hee (2.45)
Cowertry v Glocosster
Edinburgh Acads v Watsonians (2.0)
Glasgow Acads v Herlot's FP (2.0)
Glasgow High v Edinburgh W (2.0)
Glasgow High v Edinburgh W (2.0)
Harlequins v Rugby (Stoop Memodal Gd, 2.15)
Harlequins v Rugby (Stoop Memodal Gd, 2.15)
Harvent v Gosport (2.30)
Harvick v Melrose (2.0)
Headingley v Sale (2.30)
Liverpool St H v Lictifield (2.30)
London Irish v Vale of Lune (2.30)
Met Police v Bradford
Northerington v Washs

Northempton v Wasps Northem v Kendel (2.15) .

Orrell v Otley (2.30) ______ Plymouth v Exeter (2.45) ____ Richmond v Leicester (2.15) _ Rosslyn Park v Liandovery (2.30) Salisbury v Portsmouth (2.30) Selicik v Gele (2.0) Sheffield v Moriey (2.30) Stourbridge v Derby (2.30) Tredegar v Torquey
Wakefield v Roundhay (2.30)
Waterloo v Fylde (2.15)
W Hartlepool v Hull and ER (2.15) W of Scotland v Tynedale (2.0)

NATWEST COUNTY COUTS CHAMP IONEMP: Final: Somerset v Werwickshire (Twickenham, 2.0).

LONDON AND SOUTH EAST: Bisky Office Equipment Southern Mark Table: Malderthead v Markow, Reading v Guid-tord, British Car Auctions: London Old Boys Madt Table: Old Boyconians v Old Freeman's; Old Fragines v ICS Old Boys; Old Triffinders v Old Regarding; Old Windgiffans v Old Regarding; Old Windgiffans v Old Haberdeshers. Pallers.

Lord's in January. Sri Lanka's only other Test match in Australia, in Perth last

Brewery Middleeck Merk Table: Firchley v Ostoriey; Russip v Exing, Seven Connitive Merk Table: Woodlord v Astesana, Caule metches: Anthers v Roseth Marror; Beserviers v Sattron Waldert Bark of Brigiand v Old Reedonlant; Barbury v Broad Street; Bettersee Iron-sides v Beo Old Boys; Bettersee Iron-sides v Bood Street; Bettersee Iron-sides v Broad Street; Bettersee Iron-sides v Bood Street; Bettersee Iron-sides v Westingborough Od; Betterse; Stortford v Old Certabrigien; Blackheath, Brigarde v Folksestons; Bognor v Windson; Brentwood v Thurrook; Brighton v Worthing; Bury St. Erintunds v Colchester; Camberley v Estilegit: Contrating v Voltseen v Beaconsfield; Brighton v Worthing; Bury St. Erintunds v Colchester; Camberley v Beaconsfield; Dartferdiams v Sideup; Dover v Snowdown; East Landon v Midrof Wendersers; Effingham v Fartham; Erith v Shirtey Wanderver; Hartow v Welwyn; Henriey v Tsuntor, Nertford v Southand; High Wyoombe v Oxford Old Boys; Hiletin v Cambridge; psewich v Norwich; John Pisher Old Boys v Warfingham; Leighton Bezzard v Landworth; London Hospital v Purley; Lowestoff v North Weleham; Purley; Lowestoff v North Weleham; Old Seysonham; Old Albankers v Herne Herne, Old Seysonham; Old Albankers v Herne Herne, Old Selections; Old Gregoburians; Old Gravestendiams v Ashord (Nert); Old Waldordiams v Old Selections; Old Grantense v Replex v Cold Cambridge v Bergers and Grammarkers v McCambridge v Dottor; University v Services v Richmond Therwell; Park v Hospital v Woodford; Statiste v Bercorot; Cold Waldordiams v Glade Park v Berteing; Sancess XV v Chinglord; St. Mary's Hospital v Woodford; Statiste v Brackers of Dottor; University v Suttor; and Epeon; West Northik v Thank Wanderser, West Dottor; University Serviced v Suttor; and Epeon; West Northik v Thank Wanderser, West Dottor; Bertwood v Parting St. Serviced v Suttor; and Epeon; West Northik v Thank Wanderser, West Dottor; Bertwood v Yardey; Biggs

Barclays League First division Nottinohem F v Wimble

Plymouth v Sunderland WBA v Stoke Third division RUGBY LEAGUE

Second division

STONES SITTER CHANGPONSHIP: Hull v Okthum (2.16); St Holens v Helitor; Salford v Featherstone (2.20); Warrington v Castletord; Wisnes v Leeds, Second v Clementic Investe v Leda, Seconda divisios: Bartos v Ruscom; Batiey v Fulhati (2.30); Carleie v Swinzon (2.15); Doncataro v Heddersfield (2.15); humaist v Keignley (3.30); Manefeld v Leigh (3.15); Sheritald v Develory (2.15); Workington v Rockatale (2.15); York v gransley (2.15).

1882, Adelaide in 1884 and Brisbane in 1928. Brisbane has two grounds, where Tests have been played - the Exhibition

Elirchiteid v Shipston; Birstell v Harbury; Bietchley v Vipera; Boots v Keyworth; Bourwelle v Selly Calc; Bridgingth v Newcasife: Bronsgrove v Mattock; Budon v Marpie; Camp Hill v Edwardians; Chesterfield v Selly Calc; Chesterfield v Selly Calc; Chesterfield v Selly Calc; Chesterfield v Selly v Liambilett; Chesterfield v Selly v Liambilett; Crewe v Shrawsbury; Daventry v Wolveshamplon; Deboniers v Iddelerminster Carolians; Dromleid v Tenbury; Durlop v Birmingham Civil Service; East Leake v Meden Vale; Bainaborough v Mestry Old Boys; Grimsby v North Keetevan; Herelord v Calcerford; Reston v Beber; Kerstey v Oedby Wyggestoniane; Keeterfing v Laumington; Köworth v Earlsdon; Leak v Congeleror; Leastwork v Eccleshalt; Long Buckby v Syston; Loughborough v Paviors; Lutarworth v Rushden, Market Drayton v Chescie, Mellish v Mariest Basen; Melriton v Keetevan; Moderne v Mensfield; Monmouth v Ludiow; Newbold v Kenthvorth; Northsempton Casuels v Duwentry; Newport v Bloucseler Spartans; Notis Consalis v Peisrborough; Gelcham v Old Welfrighburlans; Old Ashbelans v Aylestonians; Old Hallesonians v Fedington; Cid Vernileirs v Menselly v Mariest Booker, Cid Selfelans v Viunestion OS; Philey v Marier Park; Rolis Royce v Melbourne; Scunthorpa v Newsorthsens; Stockwood Park v Lechhvorth; Solice v Haddens; Stockwood Park v Lechhvorth; Solice; Stockwood Park v Lechhvorth; Stock of Welffeld v Stockwood V Licerthians; Chilon upon Sewim v Chelsonians; Wednesburn; Tellord v Old Longtonians; Trinty Gull v Nottinghamine; Westleigh v Dudley Kingswirtland.

MORTH: Yorkshire Shield: Plank Hessle v West

MORTH's Vorteshine Shield: Pleat: Hessle v
West Leeds (Solty). Clab metches:
Alrahvorlans v Wheey: Bramley v
Roundhegiens: Burnege v Kersal; Calder
Valle v Kirdby Lonsdeis; Castisford v Old
Brodillans; Chesterfield v Shetteld Tipers; Denum Phoens v All Spettens;
Darlington v Redcar; Deverport v Wohertempore; Dinnington v Leeds CSSA;
Dittifield v Britishgton; Goole v Wath-onbearing: Bast Redford v Rodfisers: Heeds v
Didpbury Too H; Hertsworth v tidey;
Huddensleid v Preston Grasshoppers;
Hus and ER Sparas v Workson;
Huslansleins v Wheetey Hile; Johans v
Beverley; Keighley v Furness; Knothingley
v Pontetract; Nacclesdiedt v Ashton-onMersey; Matton and Norton v Herrogste
Georgists; Marrist v Leddienslens; Merseyside Policie v West Paris; Moortown v

Balldon; Novocestrians v Acklam; Old Crosteleyers v West Park Bramhope; Oldham v Wenrigton; Old Hymeriens v Cleckheaton; Old Oldensans v Middlesbrough Wasps; Old Richworthains v Huddesshed YMCA; Oldey v Orrela-Pocklington v York Rf; Rigton v Sunderland; Riochdaile v Heaton Moor; Riothertiam Barnsley; Sandal v Thomensians; Scarborough v York; Sedgley Park v Mortey; Skiphon; v North Ribbleadale; Southport v Mid Chestars College; Wetherby v Ossett; Wilmelow v Wigton; Wigner v Widnes; Wilmelow v Ustaborough; Yorkshire CW v Leeds Corlinthans.

WEST: Gloucestershire Cap: Third reund: Bristol Telephones v Serry Hill; Cheltenham Nomads v Old Pertesians; Crifton v Ceve: Dings Crusaders v Avonnout: Drybrook v Midder Old Boys: Lydney v Metson; Stroud v Coney Hill. Club matches Artisms v Bishopston; Seth Oc V Beth CS: Bideford v South Molon; Bournemouth v Bristol United; Burnium-on-Sea v Gordano; Camborne v St Ives; Chew Valley v Aller; Crifton Wanderste v Selvison; Cottem Park v St. Bernsdette Old Boys; Chippenham v Old Culverhaylane; Chipping Sodbury v Frampton Cottersit; Falmouth v Penzance-Newlyn; Hayle v Latunceston; Newton Abbott v Aron and Somerset Police; North Pentention v Totnes; North Bristol, v Midsomer Norton; Old Bristolens v Frome; Old Bizabethans v BAC; Clid Sullans v Weston United; Oldfield, v Kaynaham; Pernyn v Rednuth; St Auseally Creditor; St Brendan's Old Boys v Old Redciffians; St Mary's Old Boys v Mexoner; Sidmouth v Distalagration; Soothert and Pitt v Trovbridge; Taumen United; Vattor; Tivenon v Bernstage; Truro v Deron and Comment Police; Weilington v hybridge; Winscombe v Aron; Yation A v Pfating.

IRELAND: Irieb trieb tretand XV v Con-bined Provinces of Iretand (Lartsdowers Road). Uister: Senter eide: Bengor-st DLSP: Armagh v Ards: Collegians v Duilln University v Old Belvedre. Kally Cust Portadown v City of Derry. Leisster: Sentor date: Old Wealey v Cityles: et Mary's Cotege v Ballyment: Stentier v NBTC; Teresure College v Dungarnofn. Mameter: Sentor close constitution v Greystones; Highfield v Wandereris; University College Galvray v Monkstown,

RUGBY LEAGUE JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL TROPHY: Semi-finel Bractions v Wight (Headingley, 2.15). RODSTOCK NATIONAL AMATEUR LEAGUE: Million v Ducley HE.

TOMORROW

BASKETBALL MATWEST TROPHY (4.0): Glargow Manchester Eagles; Manchester v Olyn pia City. pic City.

MATRONAL LEAGUE: First division mee:
Tower Hamilers v Oxfore Park (4.0). First
division vecuses Strictor Topcats v
Tyreside (4.0); London Jese v Steffeld
(4.0); Notlingham v London YMCA (3.30).

CRICKET FIATIONAL INDOOR LEAGUE: Premier divisions: Hounelow v Peterborough (1.0); psewich v Marchester (2.45); Rocholdie v Leads (1.0); Solfmal v Darrion (3.0); Wisissi v Tottenheim (1.0); Wisissi v Totten

ICE HOCKEY HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Premier division: learnayleid Racors y Prentorough Pi-rathe (6.20): Solinat Barons y File Piyers (6.20): Yeyistic Tigats y Durham Waspe (7.4): Viniting Warners y Streethern Red-sider (6.20):

HANDBALL BRITISH CUP (ment: First round: Birk head v Manchester United \$85 (3.0).

TABLE TENNIS LEEDS BRITISH LEAGUE: Pressor di-vision: Ashturo (Middlesed) v Ormeeby Clevelendi: Armeda 400 (Plymouth) v Substity Carolif: Chan Construction (Birmingham) v Grove (Marrier Drayton)-Beyer Bradford Unity v Battawick Tyres (Batth)

OTHER SPORT EGUEST RIAMISH: Olympia show.
GYMNASTICS: Kirati international (Alexandra Palace, Lordon).
RACKETS: Public Schools singles champiorathy (Coten's Cub, West Kansington, Syllusian). Milk in Action Grand Prix (Siguestar).

SPORTS BOOK OF THE WEEK

Sparks fly in a fraught season

Leicestershire players almost came to blows over Phillip DeFreitas and green pitches, but for Jonathan Agnew the greatest problem was disappointment at not being selected for England

MARCH 23

Jonathan Agnew, England cricketer? County cricketer? Or former cricketer. After everything had been said and done during the winter, I thing had been said and done during the winter, I felt real excitement as I drove into Grace Road this morning. The first day of any new season provokes nervous anticipation. But I surprised myself. There had been so much talk of my retirement over the past few weeks that I had been beginning to dread the first day back.

I was morne what the reaction of the lads would

I was mesure what the reaction of the lads would be, but I had no need to worry. I bumped into my old sparring partner, Les Taylor, in the car park, and he reckoned that threatening to retire to take up a career with the BBC unless I was picked for England was an original way to make sure I was selected. "I'm going to threaten them with going back down the pit."

Les had been my closest friend at Leicestershire for years. Ever since he leat me his spare pair of boots at the start of my first match for the county second XL I had left mine behind at school?

I lugged my kit up to the first-team dressin room, and sat down in my usual spot: crammed up in the corner I had inherited from Ken Higgs. It always has the revolting smell of jeckstraps and batting gloves waiting from the drying machine. I took a deep breath. Yes, it was good to be back!



Peter Willey was there just across the room, his kit immaculately laid out as usual. He had shocked the club by relinquishing the captaincy during the winter following last year's highly-poblicized dressing-room dramas, which largely revolved around him and Phil DeFreitas. I was interested by the criticism of DeFreitas. I interested by the criticism of DeFreitas on the New Zealand leg of England's tour. He was rebuked for exactly the kind of attitude which had frustrated Willey last season: lack of effort, and lack of interest in the team's well-being, except when it suited him.

Willey eventually dropped him, which brought media sympathy for Daffy, and caused a split in the team. There were those who thought that Daffy should be cossetted and helped, and others

JUNE 18

BRITANNIC ASSURANCE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

SUSSEX 159 all out (Imran 55,

DeFreitas 5-38; Agnew 3-50) LEICESTERSHIRE 102-4

The wicket was green again, but

did not do very much. Sussex threw wickets away, and Daffy's five-wicket haul was a joke. He ran

in like a 90-year-old and bowled

slower than Peter Such. He claimed that he had flu. If he was not fit he should oot have played.

other as he snared his victims.

One of the Sussex players actually came up and apologized for getting out to Daffy! He was highly

It will be interesting to see what

the papers say tomorrow. "Fiery DeFreitas rips out Sussex" no

doubt. George said if that was the case he would sue for hibel! Our

batsmen hattled along, with Peter Willey scoring an unbeaten 52.

called a team meeting. He said he

wants to make have to go through

him (fair enough), and if he does

not agree with them, tough (oot so

fair enough - the bowler knows what he is trying to do, and nine times out of 10 should have the field he wants). He then asked if

there was anything that anyone else wanted to discuss. I said I was sick of the batsmen

moaning about the wickets, and blaming them for not being able to

score runs. It was agreed at the start of the season that our best

chance of winning the champion-

ships would be by leaving more

pace. It does not matter who

scores as long as everyone chips

in. It is supposed to be a team

game. People are thinking about

their own performances too much.

talk recently about our seam

attack not being good enough.

That had mainly come from

Willey, the batsman with most

worries about his own form. He is

happy to hlame the wickets for

that, but then accuses us of oot

winning matches oo dodgy tracks.

wickets have not been as difficult

as people would like to think. I

should know. I have bowled on

them all. It is easy for an out-of-

form batsman to hlame the wick-

ets for his poor performances, but

the four fast bowlers are tired of

accusations of incompetence. I

have got 43 wickets, George, Daffy and Chris Lewis all 30 odd. That

was when the discussion really got

Ken Higgs, our coach, suddenly waded in. "I reckoo I could have

bowled them out for less than 100

oo there." There was a silence

while the bowlers looked at each

other, and then uproar.

I said: "I know that you were a

great bowler, Ken, hut so too is

Imran. He's got one wicket out

there this afternoon. I think that

what you have just said is

Nigel stepped in: "Look, this

was not supposed to be a time to

have a go at our bowlers. As far as

I am concerned they have been

I said: "That's fair enough

Nigel, but we're sick of what's

being said by the others, and now

by Higgy too. Either we continue

our policy of having green wickets,

or we forget the whole thing. But

these wickets have not dooe as

much as people would like to think they have."

We are a team, and a bloody

good one at that. If we stick together, and play hard every day,

then we should get back up the

table again. If we carry on like this

we might as well forget it and

JUNE 28

LEICESTERSHIRE 189 and 177

(Briers 51, Agnew 4 n.o.

Curran 7-54) GLOUCESTERSHIRE 142 and

Our second consecutive win, which lifts us to third in the table.

It was also a timely haul of wickets for me. I was pleased with the way

I bowled. The wicket still offered

some help, but I put the ball in the

right place at a reasonable pace. It

has been some time since my last

Leicestershire won by 80 runs

144 (Agnew 6-39)

come back again next April.

out of hand.

magnificent."

The answer to that is simple: the

There had also been too moch

SS on the pitch to achieve more

George and I just looked at each

decent return, and this one took me past 50 wickets for the season.

Phil Whitticase this afternoon. We

were listening to Wimbledoo oo

the car radio when the sports desk

for the England cricket selectors.

Paul Jarvis is rated extremely

doubtful for Thursday's Test after

breaking down this afternoon, and

Nick Cook has a problem with his

ankle. The selectors will make an

announcement about strengthening the squad in the next hour."

"Bloody hell, Aggy, they've got to pick you this time." Phil said. I was nervous all right. I had just

taken my fiftieth wicket of the season, and was bowling well.

When Dilley was doubtful at

Trent Bridge they put Greg

Thomas on standby. That was ridiculed by the Press, and the only bit of logic was that Thomas

is an oot-and-out fast bowler, like Dilley. This time it is different.

The oext hour passed very slowly.

At a quarter to six the sports

desk came on again. "The England

cricket selectors have announced

that Glamorgan's Greg Thomas

will be added to the squad for

Thursday's Test at Old Trafford, "Well, bugger me," Phil said.

That summed it up well. I

thumped the steering wheel in

sheer frustration. What more can I

I will oot let it get me down though. I will show them. One hundred wickets is my target again

for this year. Then we will see

what excuse they come up with for

not taking me on tour.

My mind was racing.

possibly do?

"There are oow real problems

I drove back along the M5 with

like me, who felt that he was letting us all down. Professional cricket is hard graft. Success only comes through practice and effort on the field and DeFreitas must be made to realise that. It seemed a travesty to many of as when Daffy was selected to tour for England during the winter. I had had my best ever season, taken 101 wickets, and yet

was overlooked.

It will be interesting to see how Peter Willey fits into things this season. He is a close friend, and I was shattered when he quit as captain. I know that he was deeply hurt by all the wrangling off the field last year, although he would never admit it. But at times he did little to help himself. Things are either black or white to Will, there is nothing in between, I think he will have a great season



Daffy turned up today — a good effort, because there was no need to do so. He looks well, and after the usual ribbing about his suntan he had a net. It coincided with my turn to bat, and immediately he ripped one into my already stiff right thigh. That amused Willey of course. It was good to see DeFreitas so keen to join us; hopefully a sign of things to come. His problems last season came to a head with the celebrated "salt throwing, kit lobbing" incident during our match with Sussex.

This is what happened. I had been ill for several days, unable to eat anything, and the chef at the ground prepared a light fish dish especially for me. I was only out of bed in case I was needed to bat to save the match.

Then along comes Daffy and empties the contents of a salt cellar all over it. I exploded. I threw all his kit over the balcooy of our dressing-room. I remember watching all the members diving for cover as boots, pads and, eventually, his bat crashed down among them.

Mainly I was angry because it was Daffy again showing such scant regard for anyone else. The problem quickly got worse because Daffy and Will had words



excited chatter broke out among the spectators and there was Daffy jogging in through the car park gate. Reporters surrounded him as he neared the pavilion. But they failed to notice the sleek form of Turner's Jaguar slipping into the officials' car park.

The eventual reason for Daffy's omission from the team was simply on grounds of performance. He was not getting wick-ets, and George Ferris, in the second team, was. Thus the career of the most flamboyant cricketer to break through since Ian Botham was at a crossroads. Last season ended with him threatening to

BBC. There is no way that I could there is the prospect of a future at

DeFreitas: lack of interest

At the end of play, Nigel Briers (captain in Gower's absence) "What's up? I've just been for a run," Daffy said innocently. In fact, he went out to hat, after was a different type of captain to Gower and reeled off a list of seriously warning me never to talk to him again, and woo us the game things he was oot happy with.

Any field changes the bowler by smashing 26 in no time.

beyond question and it would be criminal if it went to waste. He is a completely natural cricketer, who has the ability to turn the course of either bat or ball. He is a crowd

mistakes. Gower, I think, will treat him differently. He will cajole him and let him have his own way. That may work, but it may also annoy the other players io the team if he gets his own way all the time. There is no denying that 1988 is a vital year in the career of

Whitticase: Aggy must be picked **JULY 23**

LEICESTERSHIRE 226-6 (Briers 118 not out) Daffy was dropped for lack of

effort during the Derbyshire match. Apparently he has pleaded guilty and he will not play again for at least a week. His excuses were that he was tired after playing for two years virtually non-stop, and that he was also disappointed after being dropped by England.

I can understand the second ooe, but he should have decided to get the bit between his teeth and show the selectors that they were wrong. Sulking only lets them question your character, and that can be held against you when a tour party is being selected.

I cannot believe that he is tired. He has had to do very little work at Leicester so far this season. As for the past two years, he should consider himself fortunate to have been picked to tour Australia and then New Zealand. I can understand David Gower saying that he felt jaded after 10 years of cootinuous cricket, but two years does not warrant that kind of sympathy.

Peter Willey is not a happy man either. He is suffering one of the leanest runs of his career, and today was run out backing up. It is the sort of freakish dismissal which always seems to get batsmen who are out of nick.

I thought I would cheer Will op a bit. I was reading a magazine which was promoting schoolboy cricket and David Essex, the pop singer, had written a few words of encouragement to the youngsters.

"Just remember that for every wide bowled or every duck scored, there is always another over to bowl or another innings to bat." I thought they were excellent words, potting the whole game into perspective very simply. I read them aloud to Willey.

"Oh yeah, it's all right for him to say that," he snapped. "If his family ever gets hungry all he has to do is stand up and sing a bloody Winter's Tale a couple of times and he's rolling in it again. What can I do when my poles keep getting blasted out?"

I could not answer him. Singing. in Will's case, certainly would oot solve the problem.

SEPTEMBER 7

I have oot been picked for the winter tour. I am so depressed. What more can I do to get it through to those blokes that I can

At the start of the year Peter May said that they would be picking players in form. I would have thought that 93 wickets so far this summer suggests that I am io reasonable nick. Kevio Cooper at Nottingham is the ooly Englishman who has takeo more.

The suggestion is that I can only take wickets at Grace Road? My best performances of the year have been away from home — seven for 61 at Canterbury, a six at Worksop and a six at Gloucester.

Fitness suspect? Well, like last summer. I have oot missed a champiooship match all season. I have even played for half the year with a cracked booe in my hand. The last time I had any cootact

was when Micky Stewart phoned me to tell me that I was very close to being picked for the first Test this summer. "Bad luck, Keep going mate," he said.

No ooe has a right to play for

England. I know that. But what have I dooe wrong since that phone call? How can I have been so close then, and nowhere near three months later? All I have done is take more wickets.

SEPTEMBER 8

The tour party was the majo talking point during nets this morning. The more we talked, the more it became clear that many of the players asked about their availability had received a call from Micky Stewart. I still had not.

I decided that I would take the bull hy the horns and phooe him. I got through to his secretary, but he was unavailable.

At about half past four the phone rang and it was Micky Stewart. I started by asking him what I had done wrong since May, when he had last got in touch.

"You've dooe absolutely nothing wroog, Aggy," he said. "And I can tell you that you were only a fag paper away from playing in the fifth Test at the Oval, and likewise against Sri Lanka at Lord's. You just missed out.

I said: "Well, if I just missed getting in a party of 12, how come a couple of weeks later I can't get in a squad of 16?"

He started to explain why I had not been picked, but he was talking about why Newport and Lawrence had been chosen.

I said: "Micky, it doesn't con-cern me at all why others have been picked. What I want to know is why it wasn't me. And what I really want to know is whether my omissioo was for reasons other than cricket."

"I can assure you, Aggy, that it was purely on cricketing grounds." I meotioned the history between myself and Fred Titmus, that I felt that Fred did oot rate me at the Oval when he was coach, and that he had oot changed his mind.

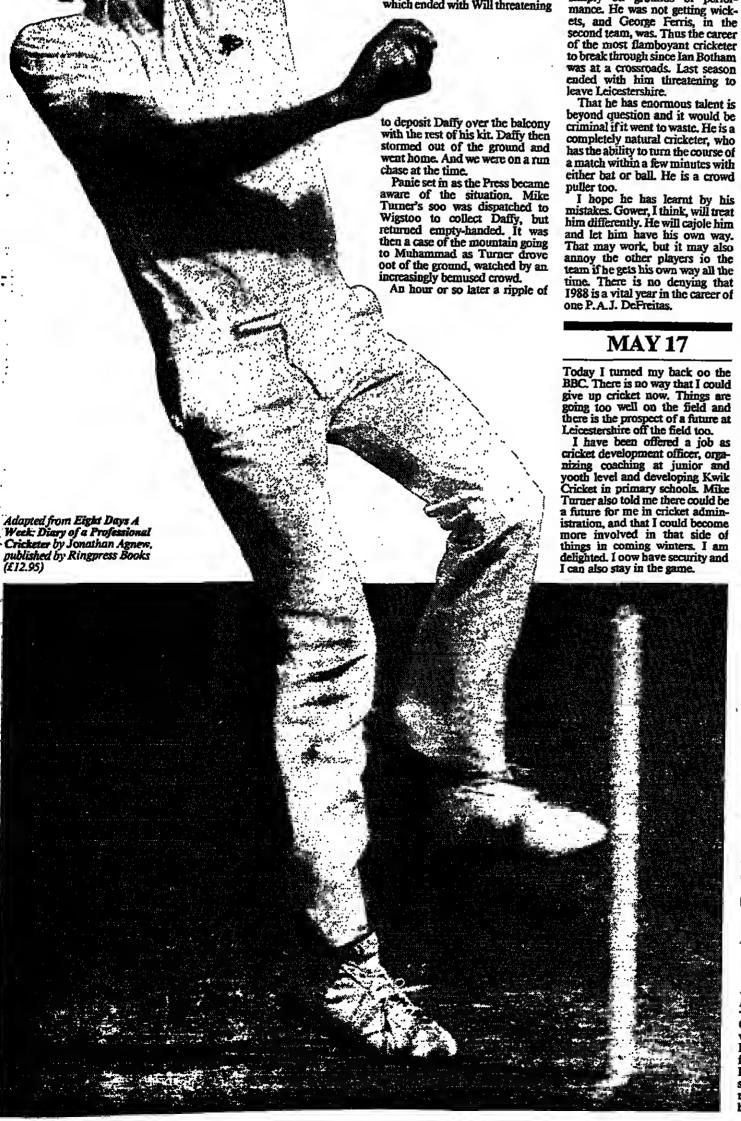
"That's oot true, Aggy. In fact, Fred was the first to raise your name at the meeting on Tuesday." "So you're telling me that the reasons I was oot picked to go oo the tour were purely on cricketing

grounds and nothing else?" Yes. No ooe can take away what you have achieved over the last couple of years. It is a great

effort, but you have just missed "Well, if that is the case," I said. "I can accept it. You and the selectors have made your ehoice, and it is your job to do that. I'm

bloody upset at missing out, especially after being told that all selections were being made on form. What I can tell you, Micky, is that I'l be back again oext year with another hundred wickets, and then you'll have to pick me." And that is where we left it.





Racing's argument for more money Bookmakers' Committee and of

1: The inability of the Bookmakers' Committee to reach agreement with the Levy Board on a scheme for the 28th Levy provides an opportunity for the racing industry to state its case for the proper funding of horseracing in Great Britain. We ask the Home Secretary to determine a Levy Scheme which provides the equivalent of 1.25 per cent of leviable betting turnover.

2: Racing is not only a major spectator sport but also a substannal provider of entertainment to both the betting shop and stay-athome punter. It is primarily these two markets, together with other peripheral commercial activities, which represent the sources of finance, directly or indirectly, for the business of running the racing industry. For racing to flourish in a competitive leisure market, our product requires investment and must continue to enjoy the confidence of both the spectator and the nunter through the work of the

security and technical services. 3: Competitive racing and attractive facilities must be provided for the spectator, but he is already required to pay high admission fees which compare unfavourably with other spectator sports and following figures clearly indicate:

TABLE A OTHER SPORTS 23.00 24.50 23.00 24.00

We are determined that racing shall remain as a "live" sport and our belief is that the scope for substantial extra income from the racegoer is very limited. Indeed we should like to see a reduction in the real costs of entry to racecourses, to maintain the market share of racing in an increasingly

competitive leisure industry. 4: Unlike the position in most other major racing countries, the betting system in Great Britain is not organized on a pari-mutuel or totalisator system nor controlled by the domestie racing authorities. There is as a result no direct commercial relationship between must negotiate with those that compared with thoroughbred rac-



RACING AND THE BOOKMAKERS

provide the betting system, viz the bookmakers and the Tote. In practice income is raised mainly via the Levy Board from the levy on off-course betting, from the varied activities of the Tote and from contracts for the provision of live sound and pictures of racing to the betting market.

5: In considering what is the correct price for the product on which the betting industry bases its business, we must pay close attention to international comparisons. Racing is becoming increasingly international and Great Britain must compete with other major racing nations to retain its position as a leading creator of top-class racing and producer of prestige bloodstock.

6: Table B gives figures for percentage return to racing from betting turnover in those countries which are generally linked to Great Britain, by virtue of international competition in both races and the breeding sector of the industry, and what this return means in actual income.

TABLE B

incom Em 3.5 15.0 6.0 0.88 4.2

7: It is impossible to put a figure on the return in the United States, because racing takes place under different conditions on a State basis. However, judging by the prize-money on offer, the racecourses, who control the betting ontlets, take a considerable percentage from the betting turnover they generate. The position in Ireland is also difficult to equate with Great Britain because the Irish racing industry, which includes Northern Ireland as well as the Republic, is limited to a 4.5 per cent return from on-course pool wagering. The Irish also enjoy considerable tax advantages

The Home Secretary has

been asked to arbitrate in the dispute between the Levy Board and the Bookmakers' Committee on the Levy rate

for 1989-90. This week, The Times has examined the

ing and breeding in this country. 8: There are those who would dismiss these comparisons because off-course betting is or-ganized entirely differently in this country, with 96 per cent through bookmakers and under 4 per cent through the Tote. The answer to that attitude is quite simple. The low return to racing from offcourse betting in Britain is caused by the way off-course betting is

9: To compete effectively in the domestic leisure market and with racing overseas, racing must receive for its product a proper share of betting turnover both on-course and off-course. We have set our sights on achieving a price equivalent to about 4 per cent of betting turnover, through a mixture of Levy, Tote payments to racecourses and other market mechanisms established between the racing and betting industries. At present the payments to racing arising from betting activity on horseracing may be summarized as follows:

TABLE C

Betting Levy Tota Contribu Levy Sponsorship Racecourses 51S income Commentary Fund Telephonic services 1.8 0.5 0.5 43,4

This total of £43.4 million would represent 1.08 per cent of estimated turnover on horseracing in 1988-89. Tote and bookmaker sponsorship can in part be regarded as a commercial marketing decision rather than a straight consequence of the generation of betting turnover.

10: In assessing how our target of 4 per cent is to be achieved, we are looking in the longer term to a significant increase in the price obtained for daily satellite pictures of live racing, both through negosport. Today, we publish the

text of the racing industry's submission to him,

compiled jointly by the Jockey Club and the Horseracing Advisory Council

tiating a higher price for the product and by developing the market as the broadcasting revolution gathers pace. However, as a result of contractual arrangements, we foresee a limited growth in this area until at least 1997, the year the present contract between Satellite Information Services and the Racecourse Association

11: At the present time the Tote pays between 4 and 5 per cent of its on-course turnover to racecourses for the right to operate. We shall be looking to it, whether privatized in some form or not, to continue to expand its business for the benefit of racing, particularly to exploit its authority to conduct or license pool betting on horseracing. We have made a separate submission to Lloyds Merchant Bank, giving our views on the feasibility of the privatization of the Tote.

12: However, for the short to medium term while other market mechanisms are developed, the industry will remain heavily dependent for its viability on the income from the Levy Board. For

turmoil in the funding of the source that racing must look for a better price for its product.

13: The industry has taken a number of steps in recent years to improve the racing product for the off-course beming market with a consequent increase in bookmakers' betting turnover. These steps have included:

(a) The programming of a minimum number of early afternoon fixtures, being at least: (i) two on Mondays to Thursdays; (ii) three on Fridays;

(iii) four on Saturdays. (b) Staggered start times for race meetings to provide an even flow of betting opportunities; (e) Promotion of a seventh race

(d) Support for the introduction of television in betting shops; (e) Promotion of the concept of all-weather track racing to reduce the effects of abandonments in the

14: The bookmakers response to the help it has received from racing in the improvements and development of the product on which their businesses are built, is now to try to reduce the racing share of betting turnover. The racing industry was very dis-appointed with the final offer from the Bookmakers' Committee of an estimated yield of £31.7 million for the 28th Scheme, an effective 7 per cent cut in the rates of Levy applying in the current (27th)

15: The racing industry wel-comes the stated intention of the

the Levy Board to eliminate the

loss of Levy income resulting from disaggregation of group turnover among some bookmaking companies, a levy avoidance practice which has been allowed to go on for too long. The industry expects to benefit from the closing of this loophole by a change to a per shop assessment, as well as from in-

creases in off-course turnover on horseracing which racing has done so much to stimulate.

> 16: We are confident that the betting product now available to bookmakers is much improved and merits an increase in the price to 1.25 per cent of leviable turnover in 1989-90. We are aware that a higher rate of Levy could cause bookmakers to contemplate an increase in the level of deduc-

increase we seek should not be funded from a combination of the present level of deductions and use of those other mechanisms which the betting industry employs to secure its trading margins. 17: We have shown earlier in this paper that, by comparison with our overseas competitors,

tions from the punter. However,

we see no obvious reason why the

racing in Great Britain is poorly funded. As a result, amongst many other deficiencies, wages are low, the facilities available on racecourses are moderate and prizemoney is poor. There are pressing requirements for new finance which simply cannot be put aside.

submission. The estimated cost in 1989-90 is shown in Table D and would be recurrent.

TABLE D

Prize-money
Facilities on racecourses
Safety and welfare
Forensic science
Veterinary degnosis

18: This figure of £19 million would be additional to the original Levy Board planning forecast for 1989-90, on which outline expenditure was based in January 1988. This extra funding would produce a total of £48.3 million, or 1.25 per cent of estimated leviable turnover in 1989-90.

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THE NAME OF THE PARTY.

19: To sum up, racing is underfunded and has set itself a target income, equivalent to 4 per cent of leviable betting turnover, through the development of a variety of sources to include the Levy, the Tote, broadcast rights and other market arrangements established between the betting and horseracing industries. However, for the short to medium term, as stated earlier in this submission, the industry will remain heavily dependent for its viability on the income from the Levy Board. For the time being it is from this source that racing must look for a better price for its

Vital first steps to a healthy future

The second part of the submission, which the

The second part of the submission, which the Jockey Club admits owes more to the Horseracing Advisory Council, identifies the priorities for additional Levy expenditure.

Stanley Jackson, the chief executive of HAC, outlined the thicking behind the prosposals:

"Over most of the last 10 years the bottom end of the scale has been almost starved of funds, while the upper levels have kept pace so we could remain

internationally comparable.

The prize-money argument cannot be overstated because it is central to the industry, and strict because it is central to the industry, and without the injection of greater funds its entire framework could be in jeopardy. In just two of many examples, the levels of wages and the health of the bloodstock industry are significantly affected by przie-money levels. We cannot afford to distillusion owners by allowing the prize-money to become too small."

Christopher Foster, on behalf of the Jockey Clab, largely echoed Jackson's sentiments, although he did not entirely concur with the

proposed distribution of prize-money. The Jockey Club believes in rewarding horses with ability, and we feel it would be wrong to downgrade those races for better class remeers.

The biggest contributors to racing are the

owners, who put in some £120 million a year. They cannot be taken for granted and it is not a case of crying wolf. During the economic recession in the Seventies the numbers of nwaers fell, and if an owner feels that a raceborse is too expensive a luxury then he will pull out."

But when the talking is done, how hopeful are the submission's architects of a favourable response? "We feel we have a strong submission worthy of 1.25 per cent," Jackson said, "but in my view one per cent would be a good result."

"I wouldn't be drawn on a final figure," Foster added, "but if past precedent is anything to go by we would very lucky to get all of what we are

The main priorities, as described in the submission, include:

 Prize-money should benefit the lower tiers of racing. This year almost 10 per cent of the Flat race programme was advertised at £1,000 or less, and over 33 per cent of the National Hunt

Owners must have realistic prospects of recovering training fees. The long-term aim is for owners to recover training fees by winning any three races, whereas today they must win six or seven run-of-the-mill events.

Prize-money is does not solely concern owners. It affects trainers' fees, and in turn the wages paid to stable staff. Failure to address the problem will drive experienced staff out of the industry.

Facilities and safety measures on racecourses, for both spectator and participant, must be improved. Suggestions for projects for 1988-89 totalled £11.5 against £6.9 million set aside for

that purpose by the Levy Board.

• Increasing demands on forensic investigation, to protect racing's integrity, and veterinary research, imperative to a healthy horse population, must be met.

Stud near Malton, he is a well-known personality in that York-

shire training centre, and, says

the owner's son. Steve, whose

yard is there, he has never

does a tremendous amount of charity work, all for nothing. All that has to be paid for is his

transport.
"He's recently been raising

funds for disabled children in Edinburgh. He was also at

Jonjo's open charity day with Night Nurse and Aldaniti, and

there was a queue a mile long of

people being photographed with

Finally, the biggest idel of recent years, Red Rum, whose 24th birthday will soon be here,

whose bounce and vitality re-

main undiminished, and who still caros his keep as a public

celebrity. His trainer, Ginger McCain,

reports: "He was in London again recently npening a betting shop, and he's tremendously well. He had a medical in the

summer, and though he still has

im at £10 a time.

Muldoon senior said: "He

looked better.

Jack Waterman tracks down five National Hunt favourites of yesteryear, now enjoying well-earned retirement

Jumping's senior citizens still in active service

public's imagination and his exploits are sure to be talked about for years to come.

But what of that band of horses which Desert Orchid bas joined? The heroes of yesterday? Faded from sight though not from memory, there are many household names of the past, leading happy lives as jumping's schior citizens in retirement. Here is a (by nn means comprehensive) selection of

them, with ages given in anticipation of January 1, when they will all be a year older: First, the most recently retired, Peaty Sandy, who is also, even rising 15, the youngest of the quintet.

Compared with Creggmore Boy back in the early sixties, who was still running at 22, or even Sonny Somers, still win-ning steeplechases at 18, Peary Sandy is but a stripling.

PEATY SANDY: Only Scottish-trained winner of the Welsh National (1981). Won Ladbroka Trophy three bries. Record 10 victories at Newcastle where a race is named in 74, won 40, placed 20, Prize-mones

Gold Cup (1984); three Grand Mittery Gold Cups. Ran 31, won 12, placed 10. Prize-money, £33,140.

National Hunt racing thrives on heroes. The latest to blaze like a comet across the scene is Desert Orchid. He has captured the home on the farm near favourite of the Sandown crowds, and lasting testimony to Fulke Walwyn's skill and patience with bad-legged horses. Innerleithen. Peeblesshire, are witness enough to his continuing popularity.
His owner, Miss Helen
Hamilton, who trained him,

gives a glowing report on Peaty Sandy's health and well-being. He last ran this year at Ayr, when he fell for the first and only time in his career, finishing lame and being retired thereafter, "But," says Miss Hamilton with a surface and the sand an tnn, "it's anything but a sedate retirement."

What used to be a part-time task for him, is now a regular occupation: rounding up the sheep. In addition, he hunts most Saturdays with the Lauderdale, and, says Miss Hamilton: "He was at Hamilton: "He was at Mussclburgh racecourse last month (for a book launch) and

as soon as he got on the course he knew where he was." Next youngest, at nearly 16, is the Queen Mother's great old steeplechaser, Special Cargo,

What they achieved

three times. Ran 50, won 22, placed 18. Prize-money, £32,273. SEA PIGEON: Jumps: Won Champion Hurdle, Scottish Champion Hurdle, Scottish Champion Hurdle and Fighting Fifth Hurdle all twice; also Welsh Champion Hurdle. Ran 40, won 21, placed 10. Prizemoney, £130,395. Flat: Won Chester Cup twice and Ebor Handlesp. ter Cup twice and Ebor Handicap. Ran 43, won 16, placed 12. Prize-SPECIAL CARGO: Won Whithread

RED RUM: Only horse to win Grand National three times (placed twice as well); also won Scottish Grand National. Ran 100, won 24, placed

His final race was in the spring of last year, but his life in etirement near Sandringham is very different from that originally envisaged for him.

In a thoughtful and imaginative royal gesture, he was sent to Henry Cecil's yard to do duty as a hack; undeniably less satisfying than pounding up the Sandown hill to victory, but useful nonetheless. Alas, that was not quite the way Special Cargo saw things. On arrival at Warren Place he was sent off in his new role. Then, on Newmarket Heath, he

caught sight of some two-year-The years rolled back, and, bad legs or no, lost youth beckoned. So, in the process, did

the wide open spaces of the Heath. Special Cargo was immediately off, at a rate of Morcover, back at Warren

Place, he proved unmanageable. So his brief career as a hack

came in a quick end. Henry Cecil comments: "It was a really kind thought, but it didn't work Today, Special Cargo is turned out in the paddocks, but, according to Cath Walwyn, he is "wanderfully well". Not anly that, he has lost none of his ebullience, and happily reigns as a boss figure among the store

a boss figure among the store horses around him. And so to another extrovert. Tingle Creek, coming up to 22, was also a Sandown star, believed by the crowds for the breathtaking boldness of his



Peaty Sandy rounds up the sheep on the Peeblesshire farm of his owner, Helen Hamilton

umping over two miles. He can his final race in 1978, to his trainer, Tom Jones, who has kept Tingle Creek since at

he was an absolute maniac." Sent hurdling, Tingle Creek on the Links by Stan Mellor, it was a different matter. "In his first chase, at Newbury, he was a He says: "Tingle Creek was an absolute athlete. But when he first came over from America,

really had something." on the Newmarket gallops by Don Cantillon, and looked after

Today, he is ridden out daily

Don Cantillon, and looked after by a senior lad, Harry Buckle, "who won't let anyone else near him".

And every year, as he did a fortnight ago, he goes to Sandown and proudly leads the

A greatly contrasting kind of

summer, and inough he same has to take his daily tablet, he's really quite amazing, particu-larly his teeth.

"I led him out the other day and the idiot was nearly turning somersaults. Silly old fool. He could have done himself an Which serves only to empha-

size the affection and regard for Red Rum as a centrepiece still, after 17 years, of the trainer's

Hobbs making the most of

Eileen's mushy peas pierce the gloom

A series of weekly reports on Britain's racecourses

as gloomy an aspect as a disused colliery. while lacking the Almost all the facilities belong

to the era of black-and-whit

elevision. The exceptions are the new Tote credit building and the Meccano-esque grandstand roof, which has everything ex-The original roof burnt down two years ago after two traust boys, hoping to spend the night there, lit a fire which burnt more

merrily than they intended. The replacement is so brightly-coloured and so in contrast with what is left of the original stand that one's first reaction is to burst out laughing.
The racecourse itself blends well with the scenery. Both seem A seavall ranks as an event. The course is completely flat and presents no problems for jockeys, with whom it is not

expopular. Pat Eddery and

Steve Cauthen are regular vis-itors in the summer and Notting-

ham was the scene of Lester Piggott's last ride in Britain in 1985. The Members' and Tatter-

THE GOOD RACECOURSE GUIDE

merged into one. Hence there are two sets of everything, including lavatories. These are well-lit but somewhat aquatic by

A happy legacy of our two friendly pyromaniacs is a comfortable new bar at the top of the grandstand, from where you can watch the racing either on closed-circuit television or

Elsewhere, refreshment facil-ities are more basic. Most of the littings seem to coincide with early episodes of Coronation Street. The wares include lo-cally-brewed India Pale Ale at 75p n bottle (refreshing, but a little gassy) and fresh scones (45p). Service is quick in the winter but can be slow in the sommer when the crowds are four or five times bigger.

The food in the restaurant is

ir food was as unsatist as that served on December 3. A plate of passable roast lamb

was accompanied by mashed potato (watery, barely warm), green beans (cooked to death, cold) and leeks (both raw and cold). The waitresses, who are tireless and friendly, were visi-bly embarrassed at having to serve such disastrous grub. The price of £5.50 was tantamount to being mugged.

ning debut there as a three-year-old, drawing further and further away with Cauthen motionless. Nottingham may make the continuous and conti Nottingham may never see any-thing as majestic again.

The course is owned by Racecourse-owning arm of the Jockey Club. The manager and clerk of the course is David

Though the racing is generally uninspiring, there is always a chance of seeing one good last meeting, having sold the

ALL THE DETAILS

HOAD TRAVEL: The course lies east of the city off the B686 Colwick road. The M1 is the obvious route for most visitors. Coming from the north, leave at junction 26 and, from

the south, at junction 24. RAIL TRAVEL: Nottingham station lies on several Inter-City routes. Trains leave SI Pancras for Nottingham at 9.35 and 11.5, arriving at 11.32 and 12.55 respectively. The saver return fare is £18.50 (first class £56). The racecourse is a £2 PARKING: Free. Silver Ring car park costs £12, including admission for four occupants. DRESS REQUIREMENTS: None. HOSPITALITY: Two boxes at the top of the main stand holding 55 and 30 guests. A marquee can arranged for parties of 100-ptus.

the course and manager, 2 Lower Mounts, Northampton NN1 3DE, Tel: (0604) 30757. taxi ride from the station.

ADMISSION: There are two enclosures. Tattersalic £7 (£8 in 1989), Säver Ring £3.50 (£4) including free rasecard. No annual membership.

INQUIRIES: David Henson, clark of

wimer of the serier, Arun Lity, for 13,000 guineas at the sub-sequent anction (bought in), thereby earning the racecourse the best part of £7,000. Heason is helpful once you get to know him but can be abrupt with

strangers.
It seems almost facetious to talk of Nottingham's "future," but the track is short-listed to become one of the first tracks in Britain to hold all-weather racing. A case of the mundane embracing the mundane.

But in all this drabuess, there is one beacon of excellence: the mushy peas sold at 30p per portion out of the back of a mobile van. Comedians over the years have exaggerated the side-effects of this classic dish, which has a good flavour and is exceptionally warming in the

They are served with a smalle by the delightful Eileen, who, incidentally, reported that she sold a ton of peas over three days Rating

PP One jockey's cap denotes Awful; two, bearable; three, Average; four, Very good; five, Excellent. Martin Trew of Racing Post

unexpected opportunities The old adage that "one man's meat is another man's poison" was perfectly illustrated last week. On Thursday at Huntingdon novice chaser Staghound ost an argument with a 4ft 6in birch sence leaving jockey Richard Rowe nursing a broken

This gave Peter Hobbs, one of Rowe's understudies at Josh Gifford's Findon yard, a chance to stand in the limelight — a chance he took with some aplomb by riding four winners at Chelichham on Saturday. Green Willow, Vodkatini Abbreviation and Lyphento - all

trained by Gifford - obliged at accumulative odds of 2974-I. The day did not start well when Green Willow dropped Hobbs before the first race. As he recalls: "I'd had a fail at Devon the day before, and I wasn't feeling great at the time it was touch and go whether I rode or not. But it all worked out

right in the end."
Hobbs views his opportunity with the philosophy which seems to run through the jockcys' breed. "Obviously it's not the best way to do it, but it's part and percei of the game. You take the chances when they come because they may not come again," he said.



ners in his career to date, and with 21 so far this term is with 21 so her this term is looking to beat his best seasonal tally. "Touch wood, it's been a very good season so far. My best score was 26, last season."

With Rowe out of action for the season so we was 26, last season." at least six weeks he will share the Findon rides with Earnor

Murphy. Hobbs looks for more weekend winners at Ascot tomorrow with Abbreviation, French Gob-lin, Paddyboro and Ballyhane in the SGB Handreap charter "Ballybane will run very well, I think he'll win. He and Saffron will be our two Gold Cup

And there are others to look forward to, "I would probably ride Vodkatini in the King Vodkatini in the King age if he runs. He could well

Anyone who backed this enigmatic bay when he refused to race for Richard Rowe at Sandown a formight ago would view that as the understatement of this or any other year. But Hobbs has no complaints, having won two races on the nineyear-old already this season.
"He can be a handful sometimes, but I've caught him right on the few times I've ridden him."

Hobbs can also look to some good chances from brother Phil-ip's Minehead yard. "Guiburn's Nephew is running in novice hurdles at the moment but he's a lovely chaser in the making. And there's also a couple of bumper horses called Border Archer and Close Escape."

One historical aspect of Hoobs' Cheltenham spree; it was the first occasion a jockey had ridden a four-timer at Prestbury Park for more than 40 years. The feat had not been

achieved since the riding days of Fred Rimell, Dan Moore and ...soiw:

On finding out the illustrious company he now keeps, Hobbs

Ballyhane the pick of SGB weights Jockey Club

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Last Saturday Pegwell Bay became the first horse to pull off the big autumn chasing double at Cheltenham when he won the A F Budge Gold Cup four weeks after winning the Mackeson.

Today at Ascot, Strands of Gold will also attempt to make racing history by becoming the first horse to land the SGB Handicap Chase in addition to the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup.

The nearest any horse has got to it was in 1966 when the mighty Arkle ran away with the Ascot race having earlier failed by only haif a length to give 35lb to Stalbridge Colonist at Newbury in one of the greatest races it has been my privilege to see.

Interestingly, Strands Of Gold will be making his attempt just four years after his elder brother, Canny Danny won the Ascot race. Earlier that season he was beaten four lengths by Burrough Hill Lad in the

Hennessy. Strands Of Gold has a lot going for him in that he represents the all-conquering combination of Martin Pipe and Peter Scudamore.

you may well say, after the happenings at Haydock earlier this week when they had trebles on successive days.

Or, if you do. only do so with a horse from another stable in form. In this instance, I have chosen the latter Ballyhane, whose trainer Josh Gifford and jockey Peter Hobbs form the combination which scooped no fewer than four of the major prizes on offer at Cheltenham last

Saturday. At Sandown a fortnight ago Ballyhane seemed to have his race won until he suddenly ran out of steam on the run-in.

As that was his first outing of the season, excuses were in order especially as it looked as though a race would bring him on when he appeared in the paddock beforehand

Since joining Gifford's stable Ballyhane has never finished out of the first two. Now that Strands Of Gold will be carrying 18lbs more than when he won the Hennessy, Ballyhane would

appear to have a first rate

chance of regaining the win-

ning trail. In fact in this instance I



Jenny Pitman: can land first and last race Ascot double

Kildimo, if only one could be sure that he was back to his formidable best. Unfortunately, evidence to that effect has not been forthcoming this St23011.

As for Sun Rising and Castle Warden, the only other runners in the field, they do not look capable nowadays of beating an up-and-coming Half an hour later, stable young horse of the calibre of and travelling companion Ballyhane on these terms. No matter how Strands Of his fifth win on the Berkshire Gold fares, Mon-Dafa can course in the Youngman's ensure that the Pipe- Long Walk Hurdle. Scudamore steamroller grinds

was that he is clearly not Nero's age and ability. would be more afraid of averse to racing on ground as

fast as he will encounter this programme, it could easily afternoon following the long begin and end with victories dry spell.

twice about opposing one so in marvellous form of late. able as Private Views. But, Crumpet Delite, my selections of the control of the contr after last Saturday when he cocked his jaw at Lingfield and ran back to the stables on the paddock bend, one has to have reservations.

Those with long memories question mark about him when he was hurdling until Season.

With Chatam dropping out of the HSS Hire Shops Hurdle overnight because of the firm ground, the way looks much easier for Celtic Chief to pick up the winning thread having gone under so gallantly in defeat at Newcastle first time out to a much fifter Floyd.

Gave Brief attempts to record In this instance I cannot

on by capturing the Frogmore escape the view that the Handicap Chase. conditions of the last spring showed better suited to a mare of Miss Nem's age and ability. conditions of the race are As for the rest of the Ascot

for horses trained by Jenny Once I would have thought Pitman whose stable has been

Crumpet Delite, my selection to win the Peter Cox Novices' Chase was a nseful hurdler last season, who jumped fences in the approved manner at Leicester 11 days ago when he began his will recall that there was a steeplechasing career on a triumphant note.

On the corresponding occajumping fences appeared to sion last year this column's make a man of him last nap selection did all that was required of it when The Processor won the Hampton Court Handicap Hurdle for amateur riders.

Now, I am more than hopeful that Esha Ness will do likewise in the capable hands of Marcus Armytage following that promising first run at Cheltenham a week ago.

First winners

Newmarket trainers Adrian Lee and Conrad Allen saddled their first National Hunt winners at Fakenham yesterday. Lee, in his first season, saddled Tigers Pet to capture the Fitzwilliam Selling Handicap Hurdle, while second-year trainer Allen took the EEN Racing Club Novices' Handicap Hurdle with Suivez Moi. to appoint a chief executive

By Michael Seely

Racing's professionals yesterday generally welcomed the Jockey Club's announcement that a folly salaried chief exec-

that a fully salaried chief executive is to be appointed to work alongside Lord Hartington, the new senior steward, when he takes office in July.

Guy Harwood, the Pulborough trainer, has long advocated such a move. "There is an enermons need for more professionalism," he said, "for someone with deep business experience at all levels. There is so much at stake and so much heavy capital investment. Above heavy capital investment. Above all we need someone who can plan forward and project for the

plan forward and project for the future."

"During the last two years the Jockey Club has been carrying out a review of its stracture, procedures and future methods of operation," spokesman David Pipe said yesterday. "It has been agreed in principle that a chief executive should be appointed in due course and the terms of reference will be defined by a six-man sub-committee."

However, only a cantiens reaction came from Sir Ian Trethowan, the chairman of the Horserace Betting Levy Board.

Horserace Betting Levy Board.
"This is a welcome move," he said. "It is, of course, for the Jockey Club to manage its own affairs, but this must be for the

Carvill's Hill, the glamour horse of Irish jump racing, makes his debut over fences in the Joe

Nortis Renault Novices' Chase over two miles at Navan this

afternoon thanks to a remark-able example of flexibility by the

Jim Drezper has had a series of training problems with Carvill's Hill stoce the spring, so to facilitate the six-year-old's appearance the executive

racecourse executive.

McCourt moves into second spot with Ayr treble

Graham McCourt moved into ner Ian Stark. He should make second place in the jockeys' championship behind recordhis seasooal dehut over Christmas." breaking Peter Scudamore when be completed a 14-1 treble at Persillant initiated McCourt's Ayr yesterday on Persillant, Tartan Tailor and Birling Jack.

drews blank at Fakenha

ished alone in the Highland Spring/ROA Novices' Chase, the stewards held an inquiry about the fall of the 6-5 favour-

ite, Lakino.

They decided that, as the sun was blinding horses and jockeys when they jumped the fourth, that the sence would be elimi-

afternoon.
Lakino was an early cases

the seventh.

falling at the fourth, due mainly to Royal Greek's attempt to

refuse and his subsequent col-lision with Lakino. Royal Greek ultimately unscated his rider at

me this season.
"Randolph Place, who won

this race for me last year, has just had a spell of show jumping with Olympic silver medal win-

Carvill's Hill chasing debut

From Our Irish Racing Correspondent, Dublin

six wins and two seconds in eight starts, and he was particu-

larly brilliant io two runs earlier this year. In the Ir£15,000 final of the Sean Graham Novices'

Hurdle Championship at Pun-chestown in April he gave 11th and a 15-length beating to Redundant Pal, having recorded

an ideotical wioning margin over Mixed Blends (received 13lb) in the Paddy Power Hur-

dle at Leopardstown.

up the sand-covered ground on the landing side.

Carvill's Hill has registered mixed Blends, already a

Winning trainer Gordoo

three-timer in the Blair Novices'
Hurdle, beating Deplete by six lengths to put trainer Nigel Tinkler on the 23 mark for the McCourt has now ridden 42 winners this season, two more than Richard Dunwoody who season. After Tartan Tailor had fin-

Birling Jack, the 7-4 favourite, coasted to a 12-length victory over Tartan Takeover in the Glentrool Novices' Handicap

David McGarva, who owns and trains the winner said: This is the first time McCourt has ridden for me and he did it very nicely. I train 30 miles away at Kilmacolm and that's why I like sending my horses to

Birling Jack had a heart murmur when sent to the Don-caster sales and then was bought cheaply at Kelso.

Boy Painter landed his third

soy Painter annea instantocourse win on his seasonal debut in the Marley Scotland Jubilee Handicap Hurdle. The five-year-old made all the running under conditional jockey Ger Lyons to win by four lengths

Richards said: Tartan Tailor will probably run again at Edinburgh on Wednesday, He is owned by Edinburgh Woollen Mill, who have 10 horses with Lyons to win by four lengths from Jinxy Jack.

Derek Tindale, managing director of Regent Decorators Ltd, who own the gelding, said:

"I bought Boy Painter for 4,000 guineas as a yearling. He likes, this course but usually prefers heavier ground."

course winner this wioter, lines

up for the two miles five furions Lismullen Amateur Riders' Hurdle, but here a 12lb al-lowance from Cloughtaney will hardly prove sufficient.

Trained by Paddy Mullins, Cloughtaney beat Mrs Muck by 20 lengths in the Bishops Cleeve Hurdle at Cheltenham io January and offered clear evidence that he was well on the way back to his reak by careful to

to his peak by carrying top weight of 12 stone into third place behind the lightly-weighted pair Capable and El-Sid Scoor at Fairyhouse a

ASCOT 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 ... Selections

12.15 Crumpet Delite. 12.50 Celtic Chief.

By Mandarin

1.55 Ballyhane. 2.30 Mou-Dafa. 3.00 ESHA NESS (nap).

By Michael Seely 12.50 Celtic Chief. 1.20 MISS NERO (nap). 1.55 Ballyhane, The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 12.50 CELTIC CHIEF.

12.15 PETER COX NOVICES CHASE (£6,004: 2m 4f) (9 runners)

FORM CRUMPET DELITE was left 12! clear of the field when Democratic Boy left, when under pressure, at the last at Leiseater (2m 44, good). Will probably stip fifter for the outing-HOGMANAY ceme home 2% in front of ibn Mejed at huntingdon (2m 44, good to firm), but was disquelified in controversial circumstances for realing to draw the correct weight. Has every chance to make measured their

LARCHWOOD made virtually all whim bening Rebel Song 2% victory over at Wincenton (2m St, good) on his seasonal blow later month with GHOFAR (3b) better off) 38% Str. Should be thereabouts today. to make ammends here. SKYCIRANGE landed a 101 victory at Worcester (2m,

BBC 1

12.50 HSS HIRE SHOPS HURDLE RACE (Listed race: £5,344; 2m) (8

201 1-11821 ABBREVIATION 7 (D,F,6) (P Hopkins) J Gifford 6-11-8 Point Hobbs 72 202 2102-00 CASNEW KING 14 (D,F,6) (P Mons) B McMahon 6-11-8 Y Wall 72 203 11151-2 CELTIC CHIEF 55 (DF,D,G,5) (Mm I, Sevell) Mrs M Bitnell 6-11-8 R Dispressedy 9-85 204 80-1112 CALAPAEZ 21 (CD,F,D,G,5) (M Davies) 2 Brezhgion 6-11-1 P Strakmere 74 205 852172- JERBALOU 280 (BF,D,Q,5) (M Davies) 2 Brezhgion 6-11-1 N Coleman 87 204-024 COMBERMERE 7 (CD,G,B,S) (J Joseph R Front 4-10-8 J Front 9-10-8 J Front 9

1967: OSRIC 4-10-8 G McCourt (11-4 Ji-fev) M Ryan 7 ran FORW AMBREVIATION scored a neck viotory ower Mole Board in the English
leg of the Sport of Kings series at Cheltenham (2m
4f, good) fast week, with COMBERNARIESE (12h
better of) 101 4th and WANEMS a faller at the lest.
Having taken the lead at the lest, he held on gamely
to hold of the challenge of the runner-up close
home.

tribunsis in the Gerry Felider Hurdle at Newburg (2m 100yd, good). Sent on to make the pace on that occasion, but goes equally well from behind and has good each-way claims. when CIT TIC CHIEF

The top-class CELTIC CHIEF lost only one of his six £10,389: 3m 2f) (10 runners)

1.20 YOUNGMANS LONG WALK HURDLE RACE (Feature race: BBC 1

301 102646 ALL JEFF 191 (8) (Lady Joseph) C Brooks 4-11-5 F3outhanners
302 4416-12 GAYE BRUEF 29 (G.F.G.5) (Shakin All Abu Khamsin) Mrs M Filmall 11-11-5 D Browne 9 St
303 1/21231 RUSTLE 253 (F.G.5) (R Weley-Cohen) N Handerson 6-11-8 M Sentity 80
304 3101-37 PRENCH COBELIN 14 (C.F.5) (N Pinto) J Gifford 5-11-1 Pour Hobbs 92
305 2124-25 M89 NRPO 14 (C.D.F.5) (I Yates) 2 Lee 7-10-13 B Dowling 98
306 01/0511 ROYAL CRAFTSMAN 29 (C.F.G) (A Durn) A Durn 7-16-11 O Hood 95
307 02-3311 TEWIT CASTLE 23 (D.F.5) (J Richardson) D Lee 6-10-5 J Cohenne 78
309 30332-3 THE BRICK-MELL BOY 45 (C.G.) (N Lizie) 2 Frost 6-10-5 J Frost 77
309 2500-22 WINTER HAVEN 42 (B.G) (J Davis) J Shiter 6-10-8 M Williams 94
316 002340 LINGHAM SHIDE 14 (F.S) (J Swisre) J Svisre 6-10-8 C Desmis 86 BETTING: 2-1 Miss Noro, 9-4 Seye Brief, 4-1 French Goblin, 6-1 Ruetle, 16-1 All Jeff, 12-1 The Belt 14-1 Touti Caste, 16-1 others.

1967: BLUFF COVE 5-10-5 R Dunwoody (14-1) R Hollinshead 10 ran FORM ALL JEFF ran 13 times over hurdles in France last seeson and picked up a knyshile event at Autsuli in March. Has run creditably in good company and looks a useful addition to the vant.

Combenness a neck at Sendown (2m 54 75yd, good to soft) earlier in the month. All out on that occasion and articuld benefit from the extra 5t today. Need: NERO was 10t runner-up to Klog's College Boy at Ayr (5m 21, good to soft) lest month. A fair titif at Chepatow (5m, soft) series this month, the should be apot on hors.

yard.
Former Chempion hurdler GAYE SREEF picked up a 5m ment here in April and probably found his letted here when 12i runner-up to Sebin du Loir, too short. Finds very little off the bridle. Placed on all storts to date, RUSTLE lended a juvenile hurdle by 3i from Nick The Brief on his final start at Liverpool (5m 1L good) lest term. Makes seasonal bow here, but could be fit enough to do himself justice here. FRENCH GOBLIN best

Course specialists WINTER HAVEN has just been begon on both starts this season, most recently 11 numer-up has blucketer's Bast at Chapatov (2m 4t, sort). Has place claims, but has something to find with NUSTLE on last term's form. 20.0 19.4 18.5 17.6 18.0 15.5

AYR

Selections By Mandarin

12.30 Al Muhalhal. 1.00 Tresidder. 1.30 Sweet City.

2.00 Nautical Joke. 2.30 The Demon Barber. 3.00 Blazing Walker.

Going: good to soft 12.30 CAPRINGTON NOVICES CLAIMING HURDLE (3-Y-O: 2895: 2m) (14 runners)

LWyer 84 A Orksey

Miss T Waggott (7)

P Hires 85

\$ Three (4) 0 20

Ger Lyons (4)

R Meagher

D J Barchell

D Holes

BETTING: 2-1 Al Muhathel, 7-2 Carbonale, 9-2 Marshalstoneswood, 5-1 Shashalis, 5-1 Galloway 182e, 12-1 Caledonian Lad, 14-1 others. 1987: ALBION PLACE 3-11-1 D Dutton (4-1 ji-fav) A Brown 10 ran

1.0 TAIRLAW HANDICAP CHASE (£2,196; 2m) (3 runners) 1 111-621 BIG ASH 21 (B.D.F.Q.S) (P Asquitt) Jimmy Fitzperald 8-12-0... 2 1F214-1 TREMINDER 4 (C.D.Q.S) (S Grevor) M W Eastorby 6-11-4 (4er). 3 214-063 BROWNRLL LABS 12 (CD.SF.S) (A Paton) R Golde 7-10-8...... BETTING: 4-5 Big Ash, 9-4 Treeldder, 4-1 Brownfell Labs. J Heyes (7) 21 Ger Lyons (4) • 34

1987; IDA'S DELIGHT 8-10-3 B Storey (4-6 fev) J Charlton 4 ran

THE TIMES RACING SERVICE Live commentary

and classified results



Calle cost 25p (off peak) and 38p (standard 5 peak) per minute inc VAT

M Easterby & Moore & Wildneson Mrs G Riave N Tinkler G Richards



Racecard number. Six-figure form (F-fell. P-pulled up. U-unseated rider. 2-brought down. S-stipped up. R-refused. D-disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: Fi fiat. (B-blinkers. V-visor. N-hood. E-Eyesteid. C-course winner. O-distance winner. CO-course and remaining since last outing.

Guide to our in-line racecard

1.55 SGB HANDICAP CHASE (Listed race: £13,840: 3m) (5 runners) 401 1922-P5 KELDBAO S (CD,F,Q,B) (Ledy Herris) G Baiding 8-12-0 J Frost 9-842 F46F3-1 STRANDS OF GOLD 21 (D,Q,B) (Independent Twins Co) M Pige 9-11-4 P Scalemore 98 1102-22 SUM RISSNG 31 (B,BF,CD,Q,B) (Queen Elizabeth) F Walwyn 10-10-8 K Moenny 82 1212-12 BALLTHANDE 14 (C,F,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 Peter Hobbs 97 210-134 CASTILE WARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE WARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE WARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE WARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE WARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE WARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE WARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE WARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE WARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE WARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE WARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE WARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE WARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE WARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE WARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE WARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE WARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE WARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE MARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE MARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE MARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE MARDEN 46 (CD,P,Q,B) (M Stone) J Edwards 11-10-3 B Powell 98 210-134 CASTILE MARDEN 46 (CD

FORM (ILDENO has deeppointed on both outings this season. Pulled up on seasonal bow in the Hennesey Gold Cup at Newbury (2m 2f 52yd, good) and when 77 5th of 6 bashind Busico at Chefanham (2m 1f, good) last time out. Has a good turn of foot and would have every chance if back to his best.

STRANDS OF GOLD showed improved form when easily accounting for Hendy Trick by 61 in the Hennessy Gold Cup at Newbury (Im 2f 82yd, good on seasonal debut, with IGLIDSHO (17th better off)

polied up. SUN RESENC, duel course-end-distance winner lest seeson, ran the enigmetic Bejan Sunsinie to a short head over course and distance (good to firm) on his seasoned bow, with CASTLE WARDEN (11b better ofly lest of 4, and finished 81 adrift of Panto Prince in a metch at Kempton (3m, firm) lest time.

BALLYHAME, highly regarded by connections, made an adequate reappearance when 2%1 2nd to Bales at Sandown (3m 118yd, good). Acts on any coing.

2.30 FROGMORE HANDICAP CHASE (27,570: 2m) (6 runners)

Long handlesp: Ma's Delight 9-12
BETTRM: 2-1 Royal Stag. 3-1 Mou-Data, 4-1 Paddyboro, 6-1 Long Engagement, 7-1 Private Views, 12-1
Frad The Treed, 16-1 Worthy Knight, 20-1 Ide's Delight.

1987: PANTO PRINCE 6-16-12 B Powell (2-1 tax) C Pophem 9 ran FORM LONG ENGAGEMENT fell on sea-mended the race when a below part 1754 hast of 4 behind Vortasini over course and dispense (good to firm) just time. Has a good turn of toot and acts on

ery.

PADDYBORD won francicaps at Donosster (2m 150yd, good to soft, by 2% from EDA'S DELIGHT (12b better off), Sandown (2m 15yd, good to soft) and Devon (2m 11, original season. Has reportedly been coughing and is best left stone on his seasonat bow. ROYAL STAG made a wirning respiperance

when besting Super Spark 214 at Kempton (2m, good to firm) Subsequently ran Vockston to 14/16 as numer land distance for now course and distance (good to firm) with IDA'S DELASHY (15) better 05). Consistent. MOU-DAFA selling plater over hundles but has developed into a fairly useful handicap chases in each of his last by selsens. On his penutimens start test term he beat

3.0 HAMPTON COURT AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,700: 2m 4f) (14 801 2F4-150 ITS A PRY 8 (Q.S) (Nes A Villar) Mrs E Heath 7-11-12.

..... M. Armythyle ... A Tory (7)

Long handicae: Don Piper 9-4.

BETTING: 2-1 Esta Necs. 100-30 Hairy Hat, 5-1 Gifted Nephew, 6-1 Brandon Pier, 6-1 Prince Menk, 12-1 tt's A Pry, 14-1 Scarlet Hunner, 16-1 others.

1867: THE PROCESSOR 6-16-10 D Bermeyworth (7-4 fav) O Sherwood 23 ran

FORM PRINCE ICLENK roads a winning responsive at Formul (2m 6/, good to firm) and followed-up at Chapatow (3m, good), Finished 914 4th of 22 behind Mr Gossip at Chapatow (3m, sort) on latest outing, with SECORD FLIGHT (152 better of) 17th. ESHA NESS looked very backward when 8½1 4th of 9 behind the unpredictable Lyphento at Chellenhers

(2m 41, good) on sessional debut, with STRAY SNOT (1D worse off) pulled up. He should come on for that run. MARTY HAT 19. 7th behind Assuttan at Window (2m 30yd, good to Erm) with XYLOPYONE (1D worse off) tailed off. GITTED REPHEW recorded his second success at Devon when beating Fourth Protocol SI (2m 11, soft).

1,30 LAURIESTON NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£874: 2m) (6 runners)

BETTING: 1-2 Sweet City, 10-3 West Ender, 16-1 Alacazem, 20-1 John Corbst, Humer's Lesp. 25-1 Fourtain's Choice. 1997: JUST & HALF 5-16-16 S Keighdey (6-1) D McCein 10 ran 2.0 MELLERAY'S BELLE CHALLENGE CUP (Handicap chase: £2,794: 3m Sf 40yd) (6

2 244-54 CYBRANDIAN 21 (C.BF.F.G.S) (I Bray) M H Essterby 16-12-0.

2 5051F1 NAUTICAL JOKE 14 (C.D.G.S) (P PSet) W A Stephanson 8-11-0.

111-634 RSNIS 14 (C.F.G.S) (A Proos) G Richards 7-16-12.

341F-01 SAXON SLAVE 15 (S) (Mrs R Grossley) J Stemanon 7-10-0.

41US14- CALIFIA 221 (D.G.S) (Nrs J Benson) Miss M Benson 9-10-0.

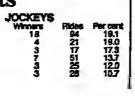
00002-5 WANDSOFF 16 (S.F.S) (R Transum) T Caribott 11-10-0. ndicep: Sexon Slave 6-13, Calina 8-5, Wardsoft 7-7. BETTING: 11-8 Naction Joles, 4-1 Cybrandien, 5-1 Binus, 8-1 Secon Stave, 12-1 Wardsoff, 14-1 Califa 1987: DEEP SOUTH 8-10-0 D Dutton (85-40 few) Jimmy Fitzgerald 6 ran

2.30 BENNAN NOVICES CHASE (21,536: 2m 4f) (9 runners) PP-8P3* ABDICATOR 17 (Colonel O Greig) J Obver 8-10-12.
921-641 HAWAIAN VENTURE 131 (D.F.(0) (Jonio Rading Pid) J O'Nell 7-16-12.
805345 INTO THE GLEN 10 (P Paller) W A Stephenson 5-10-12.
9F3 (NOCK THRICE 18 (W Lothtouse) B Wildmann 6-10-12.
9F3 - MOVING PERFORMANCE 213 (MSS Z Green) Miss Z Green 5-16-12.
806-864 SHESHOOMS LAST 17 (W Middle) W McCale B-16-12. T Reed 73 L Wyer — A Herrigen 96
A Ortney —
If Meegher —
Ger Lyons (4) 95
Mr A Dedgeon —
Y Dougley 9 89

29219-0 STROMAR 77 (C.S) (E Kennody) J S Wilson 6-16-12 271-923 THE DESIGN BARBER 21 (G.S) (R Cuppe) G Richards 6-16-12 -EF NOT 80 SHARP 36 (B Kidd) J Gillen 5-16-7 BETTRICE 15-8 Hawaiian Venture, 9-4 The Demon Barber, 8-1 Abdicator, 8-1 Into The Glan, 10-1 Shash-com Last, 14-1 Stromer, 25-1 Not So Sharp, 33-1 others. 1987: THE MAN HIMSELF 7-10-12 P Tuck (8-11 fev) G Richards 12 ran 3.0 CORAL GOLDEN HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier: 52,511: 2m 6f) (9 runners)

Long handless: Crested 9-10, Busted Spring 7-9. BETTINGS 7-2 sentement, 4-1 Secret Finals, 5-1 Blazdog Walker, 6-1 Old Malton, City Entertainer, 6-1 Toy-formade Boy, 16-1 Created, 12-1 others. 1987: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

Course specialists



As Mixed Blends went on to finish second to Vagador io the Waterford Crystal Supreme Novices' Hurdle at Cheltenham, numers will have helped break the claim of Carvill's Hill to be

NOTTINGHAM Selections

By Mandarin 12.45 Lumberjack, 1.15 Danish Flight, 1.45 Tribute To Youth, 2.15 Water Cannon, 2.45 Numerate, 3.15 Green Tops.

Going: good to firm (chase course); good (nurdies) 12.45 TOLLERTON NOVICES HURDLE (£680: 2m)

(19 numbers) 1 FPS ANTI ROD 12 T McGovern S-10-10 P Configur 2 2400 BAVARD ASH 43 C Treatine S-10-10 J Shortt 3 8-00 CHARTRY BUY 7 W Holden 4-10-10 S Knightley 4 CRY FOR THE CLOWN 77F C Sparss 4-16-10

CRY FOR THE CLUMN 77F C Spares 4-16-10

J BicLaughtie

P DESNEYLAND 23 Mrs. J Pitmen 4-16-10

FRST ERROR 203F K Bridgweier 4-16-16

A Wabb

O-0 GOLDEN BOREEN 64 D Brennen 5-16-16

M Brennen

J Bridger Star 16 W Carter 5-16-10

H Jenkins

4 LUMBERJACK 36 (BF) Jimmy Fitzgweid 4-16-10

M Deyder

M Deyder

11 4 LUMBERJACK 36 (EF) Jimmy Rizgereld 4-16-10 M Duyler
12 2-6 GUESSARD 36 F Lee 4-10-16 C Heartine
13 PP- THE LUBGATE STAR 257 M Tain 5-10-10 N Humber 40
14 0-PP TORADDY 51 N Henderson 5-16-10 J Walles
15 1950 WELLESDON 16 (D.F) D Micholson 4-16-16, D Evans (7)
16 WORTHY PRINCE 26/35 C Williams 4-16-10 O Murphy
17 MOLLY PARTHEIDER 12/45 R Wilhitms 5-10-5 R Beggen
16 64/P PAGEANT LINE 42 N Painting 6-10-5 M Richards
19 -PPZ SARTA LANCE 9 N AyRife 4-10-5 M AyRife
6-41 unbander 5-2 Sarra Lune 5-1 Consensed 11-2 Million

6-4 Lumberjack, 5-2 Sare Lene, 5-1 Quessard, 13-2 Willes-don, 6-1 Goldfinger, 14-1 others. 1.15 EBF COLWICK INTERMEDIATE CHASE (21,618: 2m) (4)

1 12-2 DAMSER FLIGHT 57 (CO.SF.F.G.S) Jimmy Fitzgerald 9-12-0 M Dwyser 2 BB-0 BENTLEY 14 Mrs J Croft 6-11-0 A Webb 5 2FF- BORDER TIMER 281 (D.S) N Bradley 6-11-0. B Wight 4 0346 VICKSTOWN 22 B Morgan 6-11-0. O Shaw 1-5 Danish Flight, 8-1 Border Tinker, 6-1 Victotown, 15-1 Bantley,

1.45 TOLLERTON NOVICES HURDLE (£680: 2m)

2 -829 COMETTI STAR 8 J Whenton 4-16-16. J Raillon (7)
3 -336 FACTOTUM 16 2 Abeltura 5-16-16. Dale Mickenin
4 80-9 HEAVERCY SNOTHER 16 (D.F) F Gray 5-16-16
5 (AMDSIG 21 J Jankin 5-18-16 6 LANDSHO 21 J Jordans 5-16-16 ... O Marphy
6 PS PUPPET SHOW 95 Herris 4-10-16 ... 3 Keightley
7 40-0 CUEEN'S BAY LAD 10 D Bremme 4-16-16. M Streams
6 625 RANDSHO CHARGE 18 A Turnel 7-16-10 9
80-5 ROMAN CART 16 M SCUEDON 4-10-10 9
80-5 ROMAN CART 16 M SCUEDON 4-10-10 9
10 TANNAS DAD 18 T Casey 5-10-10 Gee Annytage
11 F-5 THE HOWARD 33 I Mackisses 6-10-10 T Lumid J Dysm
12 900- TROJAN WAR 537 C Sparse 4-10-16 ... J Dysm
13 900- TROJAN WAR 537 C Sparse 4-10-16 ... J Dysm
14 6 TRUE GENT 10 C Stal 4-16-16 ... J Dysm
15 6- CONNAUGHT'S JOY 365 Mrs C Dook 4-10-5. O Dation
16 6 DIALECT 44 N Tricker 5-10-0 ... Mrs A Parrell
17 50-5 GEORGIC 28 Mrs J Pitron 5-10-0 ... M Dwyse
19 -965 SALCRIS PRINCE 28 B Morgan 8-10-0 ... M Dwyse
7-4 Moore Stylish, 11-4 Factorum, 4-1 Tribute To Youth,

7-4 Moore Stylish, 11-4 Factorum, 4-1 Tribute To Youth, 8-1 Georgic, 12-1 The Howard, 14-1 others. Yesterday's results

Fakenham

Ayr

Going: good to soft

1.9 (2m ch) 1, TARTAR TAILOR (G McCourt, 2-1), ALSO RAN: 6-5 few Leiding (f), 100-30 Royal Greek (ur), 8 man. G Richards at Graystokie, Toto: 22.50, Dr (winner with any other): £1.10, CSF: £2.70.

21.10. CSF: 297.03.

3.0 (2m 4f ch) 1, MATRIC (M Brennen, 16-1); 2, Brother Geothey (D Wildmann, 8-2); 3, Aden Apolto (Ger Lyons, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 11 David's Treasure (pu), 20 Tartum Torchight (4th), 5 ren. 25i, 9. 71. J Blundell at Grimbly. Tota: 28.20; 22.50, 21.10. DF: 25.90. CSF: 215.82. Sprisobrand (11-10 fav) withdrawn, not under orders — Rute 4 applies to all bets, deduction 45p in pound.

Placaport: 757.19.

Placepot: 267.10.

Walter Swinburn is to be granted a licence to ride by the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club and arrives there next month.

2.15 MANSFIELD NOVICES CHASE (£1,735: 3m)

fortnight ago.

13-8 Water Cannon, 2-1 Celtic Bard, 7-2 Sameun, 6-1 Tar-ten Twilight, 16-1 Cleaning Up. 2.45 BINGHAM HANDICAP CHASE (£1,795: 2m 6f)

5-2 Grand Value, 11-4 Kingtor, 6-1 Numerate, 11-2 Battle-field Band, 15-2 Gentoridge Jupiter, 16-1 Miss Talli, 25-1 Tourisme.

3.15 CLIFTON HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,324; 2m 6f) 8 2P-8 DROWSY 19 (B.S) O Sherwood 6-11-10. A 5 Smith (7) 4 -002 GREEN TOPS 23 (5) M Avison 6-11-6. A 5 Smith (7) 5 20-0 ROSE COME 11 (B.S) Mrs P Sty 6-11-5. M Besterd 6 01- TURE 446 (F.G.8) A Smith B-11-4.

7 6-30 SPEAKERS CORNER 10 M Wilderson 5-11-1 ... M Lynch 0 00-0 MAC'S GOLD 10 (5) Mrs S Armytage 6-11-1 Gee Azmytage 10 35-0 MZSMA SPRING 8 (2,F,S) Mrs J Restor 9-16-13 A Jones 16 022- GREEN ARCHER 60F (C,BF,G,S) Mrs J Restored 5-16-12 J Smart 11 000- GROWING POWER 363 T Muggeridge 4-10-16 R Goldshain

12 0-00 ROBERS PRINCESS & (D.F.G) M Tate 6-16-7 13 0-2F STEGSMAN 19 (BF,5) J Blundel 6-10-0 M Breamen 14 B3-0 PYLEIGH COURT 11 (F) N Genelee 6-10-0 & Bescher (7) 15 -000 FREERACER 6 (F) S Harts 6-10-0 M Couse (7) 16 3030 SLP UP 29 (D,F) F Gray 6-10-0 M Couse (7) 17 0FP KUTATI'S BELLE 0 (B,D,F,G) D Berons 7-10-0

4-1 Stegamen, 9-2 High Hern Blues, 6-1 Green Tope, 7-1 Sir Perdo, 8-1 Drowsy, 16-1 Turi, 12-1 Green Archer, Pyleigh Count, 14-1 others. Course specialists TRAINERS: N Tinkler, 6 winners from 11 runners, 54.5%; A Turnell, 4 from 11, 36.4%; O Sherwood, 6 from 23, 26.1%; J Blandell, 8 from 14, 21.4%; N Henderson, 4 from 22, 18.2%; J Jenkins, 4 from 24, 16.7%.

JOCKEYS: R Beggan, 5 winners from 15 rides, 33.3%: M Dwyer, 12 from 48, 25.0%; D Dutton, 3 from 21, 14.3%; M Brewnen, 8 from 70, 11.4%. (Only qualifiers). Red Shah made a splendid comeback and gave Guy Harwood's daughter, Amanda, her first chasing success under rules when landing the Waveney Handicap Chase at Fakenham yes-terday. Miss Harwood's other success under rules came on the Martin Pipe-trained Pertemps Network at Newtoo Abbot last month.

12.30 (2m hdle) 1, PERSELLANT (G McCourt, 4-5 fav; hitchesi Seely'e nap); 2, Deplete (M Brannan, 2-1); 3, Dani Yanthare (M Devyer, 15-2). ALSO RAN: 18 River Blues (5th); 20 Pinemartin (4th), 200 Bright Suggestion (5th), 6 mm. 5, 7, 3, 4, dist. N Timider at Marton. Total: 22.10; 21.40, 22.30, DP: 21.30, CSP: 22.70.

1.36 (Sm 110):d ch) 1, BRILING JACK (S McCourt, 7-4 fev); 2, Tartan Takaover (J Hansen, 3-1); 3, Passgyriet (Mr D Mcctaggart, 12-1), ALSO RANK 7 Ameri-can Caesar (6th), 8 Traprain Law (5th), 14 Kaim Park (), 25 Pro Tokan (4th), 33 Nite Of Spring, 50 Ark Invector (put, 8 ran. 12t, 3, 301, 13, 31 D MoGerva et Klimacolm, Tota: 23.50; 21.16, 21.90, 22.19, DP: 23.10, CSP: 25.49, Tricant: 233.17.

2.0 (2m hole) 1, BOY PAINTER (Ger Lyons, 12-1); 2, Jimpy Jack (N Doughty, 9-4 ley); 3, Lotae leland (G McCourt, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 6 Persian Spiendour (4th), Persian Blade, State Joeter (f), 14 Chance Hemark (5u), 16 PR Pony (5th), 20 Threspiend (6th), 25 Absonant. 10 ran. 4, 5, 114, 7, 8; J Johnson at Crock Tote: £11.50; £1.90, £1.30, £1.40, DF: £49.50, CSF: £37.88, Tricaet £108.53

2.30 (2m-4) folio) 1, KING'S HARVEST (L. Wyer, 7-2); 2, Presty Geyle (A. G. Smith, 25-1); 3, Third in Line (M. Dwyer, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 fav Regardless (pd), 5 Loon (5th), 12 filen No Va Piks (pu), 14 Caney River (pu), Ballydaly Express (4th), 25 Smiles Better (pu), 50 Sandisious Rumour (pu), 10 ran. 71, 151, 101, 71, G. Moore at Middleham, Toles: 64.70; 21.90, 23.20, El. 10. CSF: 257.03.

Racing next week

MONDAY: Kalso, Towcaster. TUESDAY: Ludiow, Folkestone. WEDNESDAY: Edinburgh, Bangor THURSDAY: Hereford, Lingfield. FRIDAY: none. SATURDAY: none.

 Peter Hudson is to replace Fred Fytche as private trainer to Sheikh Mohamed Al Sabah at Al-Deera Stables, Lambourn. At present Hudsoo is estate manager at Barry Hills's Manton stable.



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218.93. Tricast: 275.71.

3.15 (2m 5f 110yd helle) 1, SURVEZ MOI (S McCrystal, 7-1); 2, Transplant Stue (Mr G Upton, 12-1); 3. Connedy Sall (R Guest, 16-1), ALSO FARK: 7-4 few Speckylournyes (Sth), 11-4 Campsee-Ash (4th), 9-2 See You There, 15-2 Bick Benedict (Sth), Caddisjat, 16 Farewell To Alma, 25 Duristal, Asset, 11 ran. 31, 11, 41, 131, 13. C Alion at Newmentant. Toke: 28.60; 23.80, 25.80, 23.80. DF (tat or 2nd with any offser): 22.80. CSF: 296.65. Tricast: 2506.30.

A Norfolk boy's formula

Are champions in sport born or made? Mick Cleary discovers how the world No. 1 sports car driver started out at the age of eight in a battered old Austin A35

t was a deliberate collision. There could be no doubt ahout it. Martin Brundle was on his lap of honour when a screech of tyres alerted him to the car hurtling towards him. Crunch. That was the end of

Brundle's little dream car. Luckily it was not quite the end of Brundle himself. The crash itself though was only half the problem. Brundle started to remonstrate with the other driver. Suddenly out came a crowbar and young Brundle, then only 15, decided that he would rather still be around to sit his O-levels that

summer. He backed off. Fourteen years later when people talk about heated arguments between rival drivers, Brundle just smiles. He knows what an argument really is. Not that he has had that many of late in becoming the world sports car champion, a title he clinched receotly in Japan.

Brundle grew up amidst oily rags and exhaust fumes. The streamlined Jaguar he drove in the world championship was a far cry from the clapped out, ad hoc cars he used to put together himself when he first started competitive racing as a 12-year-old. He was behind the wheel even before that. His father, himself an accomplished rally driver, owned a garage near Kings Lynn.

From the age of eight Brundle, with his younger brother Robin, aged five, would pester some unsuspecting adult into taking them down to a nearby field in a battered old Austin A35. Eyes peeping over the steering wheel, Brundle would tear across the rutted terrain, skidding and sliding to his heart's content.
"I don't think the adult who

accompanied us was quite as enamoured," Brundle recalls, "As far as I remember there

Brundle quickly progressed through the ranks of grass-track racing until the sore loser



Seat of power: No need to look for adults to terrorize this time - Broadle taking lessons for his helicopter pilot's licence

was quite a large turnover of in the Zephyr 6 put paid to volunteers. We could only con them into operating the pedals for us a couple of times before we terrorized the life out of them. Looking back I suppose it was all a bit dangerous. But of course as kids you never bother to rationalize your feelings. It was all just fantastic excitement.

By the age of 12 Brundle was ready for the real thing. On Sunday mornings his father, John, would drop him off at local dirt-track meetings oo his way to work at the garage. "He would pick me up on his way home, usually in one piece which is more than you could say for the car."

"The car" was in fact no more than an old banger procured from the scrap heap io the family garage, Brundle would take it to pieces, removing everything breakable, refitting the radiator at the back to protect it from collisions, add four knobbly tyres and then cajole the mechanic into tweaking up the engine. "He used to do such a good job and I was often accused of cheating. The unofficial rules were that 'bog-standard' cars

only were to be used."

Brundle's all-conquering Anglia Estate. Hot-rod racing was the next step, an altogether fiercer arena.

Money has always been a potential stumbling block for any talented aspiring driver. Without financial back-up the fastest gear change in the world will only get you so far. Brundle learned the value of money from a very early age.
"My father used to be a

smallholding farmer. As the

family had been for ne year he lost his entire crop of strawberries to some bent dealer in London who made off with everything. We were broke. So dad set up the garage. As I grew up I saw what cash flow

really meant - either you had

some money in your back pocket or you were finished. That experience was probably as invaluable to me as all basic driving skills I picked up hammering around the fields of Norfolk. To get a Formula One drive you have just got to push yourself, market yourself, in short - sell

yourself." Brundle did just that when,

his boss at Jaguar, pleading for a ride in one of his BMWs in the county championship circuit. "One of the cars is called The Norfolk Car. I'm the best driver in Norfolk, so why not use me?" wrote Brundle. Walkinshaw liked the boy's effrontery. Brundle did not let. him down that year and he certainly has not since. Brundle, who has joined the

Brabham Formula One team for next season, is now a rich man. Quite apart from his successes on the track the family garage has also flour-ished. Yet, for all his money, Brundle chooses to stay in Norfolk, only a few miles from where he was born. "I'm very much the country boy at heart. My childhood was very happy and secure, and I like these type of people - very honest but also quite private.

"I'm exactly the same. My rather reticent character has often been misconstrued: arrogant or lacking in confidence or even simple, despite the fact I've got 12 Olevels and a distinction in business studies. When I won the world championship in Fuji people expected me to jump up and down in wild ecstasy, spraying champagne aged 18, he wrote a letter to everywhere. But people from Tom Walkinshaw, later to be Norfolk are just not like that."



ATHLETICS

Tunstall's chance to defeat Ngugi

Athletics Correspondent

Steve Tunstall is the most exciting thing to happen in British men's cross-country in years. On his performance in last week's Lancashire championships alone, it will require a drastic improvement in John Ngugi's recent form for the Olympie 5,000 metres gold medal winner and thrice world cross-country champian to get anywhere near Tunstall in the Miller-Lite IAC race in the grounds of Cardiff Castle today.

prounds of Cardini Castle today.

Peter Tootell is no stick in the mud, and Lancashire are the strongest cross-country county in England. But Tunstall, recently returned from five years service with the French Foreign Legion, bear Tootell by the extraordinary margin of \$2 seconds at Skelmersdale last Saturday.

Ngugi, in contrast, has been taking it easy since his own runaway win in Seoul. The Kenyan has finished well down the field in Tim Hutchings's two the need in 11m Hutchings's two victorious races in France in the last fortnight. Hutchings won both by 30 seconds, and feels he is running as well as he has done in the last five years, which includes a second place in the world championship in 1984.

All of which indicates a due! An or which indicates a customer than the between Hutchings and Tunstall, with Kip Bitok providing the more likely Kenyan challenge, and Dave Clarke and Dave Lewis ensuring an England team victory. land team victory. Any chances of a British team

emulating that placing in the world championship in Sta-vanger next March would be immeasurably improved by the inclusion of Tunstall. But that does not seem so likely now.

Having run for France in thisyear's world championship, finishing fourteenth, just behind Roger Hackney, the first Briton, Tunstall should, in theory, be unavailable to represent Britsin for three years.

However, the French agreed to a nominal one year, which means that Tunstall, always supposing that he carned selection, would have to miss this season's world championship, since Stavanger comes one week earlier than the race in New Zealand last March,

It was suggested a month ago that the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) would be favourably disposed towards a British plea to waive the few days which separate the world champiooship from Tunstall's reinstatement. But it seems that the IAAF now feels that Britain should demur, in

Law Report December 17 1988

HOCKEY

Dundee invitation event will benefit **Old Loughtonians**

Slough and Old Loughtonians will be at Dundee today and tomorrow for the invitation indoor club tournament, or-ganized by Menzies Hill as a prelude to more intense com-petition to follow next innath. Both English clubs are treating the event as a training exercise and it will be particularly useful for Old Loughtonians, who have reached the last 32 nf the Rnyal Bank national indoor champ-

ionship.

Because of the England indoor training weekend at Aldenham School, Old

Aldenham School. Old Loughtnaians are withnut Gladman, Nick Thompson and Halls, all of whom expect to be selected for coming international events.

Their squad for Dundee includes Camilleri, Ashton, Mnris, and Seaton, the goalkeeper, who represent the core of experience. The newcomers are Mooney, Sutherland and Philpot, an England schoolboy.

ney, Sutter and ann Primpot, an England schoolboy.

The Slough side, which is sponsored for indoor hockey by Boxrent, looks even less like challenging. Apart from Ken and Steve Partington and the goalkeeper, Loudon, the others have yet to make an impression at the indoor game, the names of Felton, Goswell, Auld, Press, Shahid, and Parvez being un-familiar to the Scots.

The Scottish clubs, on the other hand, are assembling in full force, no doubt with an eye on the home countries tour-

Menzies Hill, the host side and holders of the Glenfiddich international title, have at least three Scottish internationals, Christie, Cox and Cuthill. Wilson, Crosbic, Tom Hay, Scoular, Plevin, Knapp, and Kay are playing for Murray Inter-national Metals and the key to success could rest with either of

Into the fray come Weish Dragons, in effect the Weish national side, also using the event as a training exercise. Their side includes Gowman, • prolific scorer and the Colclough brothers, Andy and

From all appearances this could be an eventful tournament with Welsh Dragons, Stough, Plexus-Mercian and Murray International Medals making up group A; and Menzies Hill, Western Indespension, Khalsa and Old Loughtonians forming group B.

The winners and runners-up of each group will, as usual, qualify for the semi-finals. The particularly short indoor

season makes the overlapping of events unavnidable. The Glenfiddich tournament, in which St Albans are taking part, clashes with the Roses tour-nament at Crystal Palace on January 7 and 8. So, too, does the Lada Inter-cities tournament at Birmingham with the junior European championship on the home countries tournament at Glasgow on January

21 and 22.

Larupean championship at Orense, near Bilbao, from January 27 to 29. Here England are expecting to win a model.

County players help Exeter push claims

By Joyce Whitehead

With no representative matches of note or international games adding to the fixture list, leading clubs will enjoy the rare experi-ence today of having their best players available when they take the field.

If form is maintained, Exeter and East Gioncester will go in at the half-way stage of the Sun Life West Club League's first season, leading the field. Exeter, whose home ground is now the new astronur pitch at Ottery St Mary, have improved

greatly under the coaching of Jenny Tippin, the former Eng-land captain. Eileen Mander (formerly Derbyshire and Midlands) is scoring most of the goals along with Sue Cligg. With two Devoo players and one from Cornwall, they are cer-tainly a promising side.

attack, goals proving clusive although seven of the side represent Gloucestershire. The others have come up from last Clifton and Swindon are improving and after Swindon

have played Leominster, they may well be on the heels of East Gloucester and Exeter. Clifton do not play this week. In the Midlands, two matches

in the premier division will be played this weekend and both could add another contender to the top, Sutton Coldfield and Sherwood are on eight points each with Leicester Pickwick and Tamworth on four. Sherwood play Leicester in Notting-ham and Tamworth are at home to Pickwick, If their strongest side is available, Leicester could

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Brundle looking to the future Inequality justified only during crisis BIRKENSTOCK-CO Beaveniste v University of Before Lord Donaldson of Lymington, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Neill and Lord

Justice Butler-Sloss [Judgment November 23] Financial contraint was a "material difference" justifying a variation between a woman's, contract and that of her male comparators for the purposes of section 1(3) of the Equal Pay Act 1970, as amended, only while the constraint persisted.
When it ended, the difference evaporated and the employers were no longer justified in paying her a lower salary than

her male comparators. The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by the em-ployee, Regina Benveniste from the Employment Appeal Tribunal (Mr Justice Popplewell, Mr J. P. M. Bell and Ms S. R. Corby) which had dismissed her appeal from an industrial tribunal's decision that her employers, the University of Southampton, inter alia, were not in breach of the equality provisions of section 1 of the Equal Pay Act 1970, as sub-stituted by the Sex Discrimingtinn Act 1975, and in any event were entitled to rely on section 1(3), as substituted by the Equal Pay (Amendment) Regulations (SI 1983 No 1794).

Section 1 of the 1970 Act, as amended, provides: "(1) If the terms of a contract under which a woman is employed...do not include ... an equality clause they shall be deemed to include

... of a contract had the effect should have been receiving that where a woman was em-ployed in like work with a man in the under which a woman is employed... and has the effect that — (a) where the woman is employed on like work with a man in the same employment — (i) if (apart from the equality clause) any term of the woman's contract is... less favourable to the woman than a term of a similar kind under which that man is employed, that term in.

the woman's contract shall be treated as so modified as not to be less favourable... "(3) An equality clause shall not operate in relation to a variation between the woman's contract and the man's contract if the employer proves that the variation is genuinely due to a material factor which is not the difference of sex and that factor - (a) ... must be a material difference between the woman's

case and the man's. . . Mr lan Lee for the employee, Mr Alan Wilkie for employers.

LORD JUSTICE NEILL said that the employers had in 1981 invited applications for a lecturer in mathematics. On selectthe mathematics. On select-ing the employee it was recorded that because of the severe financial constraints then facing the university, they were obliged to engage her at a salary which, it was common ground, was below what would have been offered if there had been no such constraints. The salary she received of £8,515 was half way up

In 1982 she complained about her salary indicating that she "(2) An equality clause is a should have been about six rovision which relates to terms points further up the scale and about £11,550. The employers sereed that she should have an extra increment, additional to that due annually, which would be paid in October 1983. However, throughout 1983,

the employee was dissatisfied with her salary, and in May 1984 the employers proposed that two additional increments should be paid to her in the following October. In June of that year following incidents investigated by a com-mittee of the university, she was dismissed. She complained to dismissed. She complained to an industrial tribunal that her dismissal had been unfair, and she also asserted, inter alia, that

her employers were in breach of the Equal Pay Act 1970. She clearly considered that her salary, should have been adjusted by larger increments to catch up earlier and she sought, for the purposes of the Act, to compare herself with four male comparators, who as was now

common ground, were em-ployed in like work. The employers had argued that the case was not within section 1(2)(a) because no term in the employee's contract was less favourable than any term in the contract of her chos comparators and that even if the case did fall within the section, section 1(3) applied because there was a material difference in her case from the comparators.

The employee had asserted that since her male comparators were employed in like work and earned more, there was a term in her contract which was less favourable, and that although the existence of financial constraint could be a material difference on the authority of Rainey v Greater Glasgow Health Board ([1987] AC 224) that difference had evaporated by the end of 1981 when the constraint ended and that accordingly the employers could not rely on section 1(3).

The employers had urged that the 1970 Act had no application since the employee's complaint really related to her place on the scale, not to her salary, that they had a discretion where on the scale to put a lecturer, and that. there being no age for wage norm, she had no contractual right to be put on the scale at any particular point.

His Lordship could not accept that submission in the present case. She accepted like work with her comparators and was paid less because she had been appointed in a year of financial restraint. On a correct analysis there was a term here regarding her salary which was less favourable than her than

His Lordship also rejected the employers contention that they could rely on section 1(3). Because the restraint ended in 1981 the special factor for the purposes of section 1(3) also went, it could not be right to pay her on a lower scale when the reason for doing so had dis-appeared. The financial con-straint ended in 1981 and the material difference then

The Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Bntler-Sloss

Solicitors: Pattinson & Brewer, Hepherd Winstanley & Pugh, Southampton.

Judicial review refused while appeal pending curately calculate the relevant What had happened in this

Justices, Ex parte Hart Before Lord Justice Parker and Mr Justice Henry [Judgment December 7]

At the nutset of the hearing of an application for judicial review proceedings before justices an applicant whose appeal to the crown court was then pending must immediately so inform the

Divisional Court.
The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held, in dismissing an application by John Anthony Hart for judicial review of his conviction by the Droitwich Motorway Justices on July 6, 1988, on a charge of driving at a speed exceeding the permitted himit - he having also given notice of appeal to the crown court against that

Mr Richard Bromilow for the applicant; Mr Patrick McCahill

LORD JUSTICE PARKER said that the validity of evidence of speed afforded by a Visual Average Speed Computer and Recorder ("Vascar") depended on precisely accurate operation of the timing and distance switches on that device.

case was unusual and un-satisfactory in that the passenger in the police vehicle, where the device was installed, had not been trained in its use; so that it had been operated by the driver.

That should never happen. The driver's duty was to drive, not to aperate switches at the exact moments when he might observe vehicles passing particular markers.

The only ground on which judicial review was here sought was that the justices had acceded, after the conclusion of the case for the defence, to an application by the prosecution for leave to recall the passe in the police vehicle to give further evidence in rebuttal. The justices appareotly

considered it useful to have the clarification afforded by that evidence but it was not suggested that they would have recalled that officer in the absence of that application. There had in factbeen dif-ferences, as to the distances involved, between the various witnesses but in this case such

differences were insignificant because if the device was op-

crated correctly, it would ac-

In fact the passenger's further

evidence had been of no ma-terial effect whatever nor, in-deed had this been an occasion when the prosecution had been ustified in seeking to call further evidence in rebuttal of that called for the defence. The application would, however, be refused for two reasons.

First, because of the insignifi-cance of that further evidence. Second, because the court had, at a regrettably late stage, been informed that the ap-plicant had lodged an appeal to the crown court against his conviction.

In R v Barnes and Others, Ex parte Lord Vernon ((1910) 102 LT 860, 861) Lord Chief Justice Alverstone had expressed an identical regret, that when he had been moved to grant a rule against the respondent justices to show cause why certiorari should not issue, it had not been mentioned to him that the defendant was appealing to

QUARTER SESSIONS. He had commented that the authorities showed that in a case where there was a limited time for appealing and the party had appealed, no certiorari would be granted until the appeal had been disposed if because in one event the certiorari might be

His Lordship did not propose to go into the question, whether an appeal to the crown court was an inevitable bar to any and every application for judicial review but in this particular case he had no doubt that judicial review should not be granted by the property of an appeal to the crown court was because the matter was obvi-ously much more suitable for a rehearing in the crown court.

While it would not be right for the Divisional Court to make any observations about the merits, a number of points would, no doubt, be made on the applicant's behalf at such rehearing.

Mr Justice Henry agreed. Solicitors: Henriques, Griffiths & Co, Bristol; CPS, Droitwich.

Correction

In R v Tower Hamlets LBC, Expanse Camden LBC (The Times December 12) Miss Lncy Theis appeared with Mr Ashley Underwood for Tower Hamlets, in Capps v Miller (The Times December 12) the date of judg-



PROPERTY

Family castle, not for sale



If aristocrats cannot keep up their homes, Nicholas Ridley says, they should sell them

to those who can. In Oxfordshire, Lord and Lady Saye and Sele beg to differ. Sally Brompton reports

he 21st Baron Saye and Sele, Nathaniel Thomas Allen of tell spanish and Fiennes, carried his mid-morning mug of Boyril up from the kitchen himself, gulping it down in front of the blazing log fire, the very picture of an Englishman vhose castle is his home. His aucestors' servants

would doubtless have brought in the bouillon on a silver tray, but the landed gentry have had to come to terms with the 20th century. The anciens pauvres, as Nicholas Ridley calls them, may have been born into marbled halls but their lifestyle now is more than often three-up, two-

Certainly, Nathaniel Fiennes and his wife, Mariette, live modestly behind the moated stone but-tresses of Broughton Castle in Oxfordshire, home to Lord Saye and Sele's family for more than 600 years. "We don't have butlers or Rolls Royces or go to the West Indies or bny expensive jewellery," says the 68-year-old peer, who drives himself around in an Austio Montego. "And we always travel second-class when we go by train. I like to think we're the same as other people except for the

fact that we live in a castle." Lord Saye and Sele was predictably unimpressed by eovironment minister Ridley's suggestion that "impoverished aristocrats" should oo longer receive government aid : stately homes" but should sell them instead to the nouveaux riches. "I felt a bit insulted at first," he admits. "I thought it was uncalled-for abuse and very much missing the point."

> ver since he took possession of the castle 20 years ago, tollowing the deat of his parents within 10 days of ooe another, he and his vivacious wife have invested their time, money and considerable enthusiasm in maiotaining Broughton both as a family home and as a national heritage.

> "It's a tremendous responsibility and quite a burden but equally it's an enormous privilege and we do get a great deal of enjoyment out of it," he says. "I'm a great believer in the work ethos. Just because you own a big house is not a good enough reason to stand around and do nothing." He often escorts tourists round the castle himself or takes their money at the gate, and is. occasionally, asked to point out "the Lord". "The fact that l look so insignificant helps." The previous day his wife had made instant coffee for a party

> of fine-art students. He is in the middle of a 15-

programme. The Government has so far given him a total of £200,000 over six years — 40 per cent of what he has spent to renew the crumbling exterior stonework, the rotting lead in the windows and the timbers which are riddled with death-watch beetle. As a result, Lord Saye and Sele believes that "nothing substantial will need to be done for another 400 years'

He dismisses Nicholas Ridley's arguments as irrelevant. "National Trust houses are wonderful but they don't have a soul," he says. "Old houses inhabited by the old families are a part of our heritage worth preserving. You may laugh at the people who live in them, you may think they are anachronisms, but they are part of our heritage and part of our tourist industry.

"Do you really think that by removing us from here and installing a nouveau riche family, the heritage would be maintained in the way we maintain it? Do you think they would want to open their Peter Jones-furnished homes to the public?

The running costs of the castle
- about £35,000 a year - are covered by the income it raises from the 17,000 annual visitors, the private functions and the occasional film, television or advertising company: who use the lofty, picturesque castle for productions such as part of which is tenanted and

The Slipper and the Rose, The Scarlet Pimpernel and even, on one occasion, The Morecome from his chartered cambe and Wise Christmas Heritage-maintaining, how-ever, does not come cheap. Show. (The new carpet in the Oak Room was paid for by the

> Lord Saye and Sele is spending oo the structure comes from his 17,500 acres of farmland,

American-made movie Joseph

The £60,000 a year which

spic, Nicholas Ridley remarked, was 'all very well round will not do for a living heritage". That, thought Lord Saye and Sele, was "gratuitously offensive". He and his wife speot £15,000 installing a handful of basic mod cons when they moved into the castle. "You have to adapt bits of a house like this for modern usage," he says.
"My parents were extraordinarily indifferent to cold."

tually inherit the ancestral home. "I would be very sad if

the house didn't stay in the

family." his father admits.

The family eats mainly in the modernized kitchen, using the baronial dining-hall for entertaining and Christmas lunch. There is now a small laundry room and Lady Saye and Sele hangs out her washing on the battlements. She has cleaning help three mornings a week, and she has Joyce. who has been coming in to

Off the Gallery, lined with portraits of his ancestors (who alternated between being gamblers, bounders and drunks, and models of moral rec-





The medieval Great Hall, scene of charity concerts, Right, 18th-century Chinese hand-painted wallpaper in the King's Chamber





Cak Room carpet at Broughton was paid for by a movie. Right, the Queen Anne Room with its 18th-century four-poster bed



titude), is the small bedroom where both James I and Edward VII once slept. Lord Saye and Sele holds a village communion service in his and his wife in the less-thangrand style to which they have private chapel twice a year and become accustomed. charity coocerts in the Great

Their four children all live away from home and return at weekends. Richard, aged 29, is in a home for epilectics; Martin, 27, runs a small printing firm in London; his twin, Susannah, is an artist; William, 18, is teaching in Brazil while waiting to go up to Oxford, Martio will even-

"I'm not really true to type," he says. "I don't go hunting, shooting or fishing. There are a few pheasants but we really like to see them as plore them, are doing the job

pheasants. And I don't play bridge." Instead he walks, gardens and chats to the visitors who pass through the ancient castle gates.

"I think the only real answer amounts of money the Government is dishing out are relatively small," he says. "And the leading old families, however much you may de-

as best they can, and are using their money to preserve the place and at the same time open it up to the public.

"The heartbeat of an old house is the people who to Nicholas Ridley is that the inhabit it and care for it and its traditions. I don't regard myself as the owner of Broughton but as the temporary cus-todian, and I think it's sad that a politician in Mr Ridley's position finds it occessary to give them continuity."

pour scorn on those of us who are striving against considerable odds to preserve this particular part of our heritage.

"I accept that nobody owes us anything - least of all the Government - but if our historic houses are to be maintained for the future I believe that it will be done best and cheapest by the families who cherish them and can

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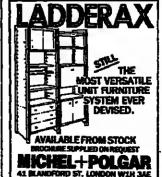
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